1	STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT
2	COUNTY OF RAMSEY SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
3	
4	The State of Minnesota,
5	by Hubert H. Humphrey, III,
6	its attorney general,
7	and
8	Blue Cross and Blue Shield
9	of Minnesota,
10	Plaintiffs,
11	vs. File No. C1-94-8565
12	Philip Morris Incorporated, R.J.
13	Reynolds Tobacco Company, Brown
14	& Williamson Tobacco Corporation,
15	B.A.T. Industries P.L.C., Lorillard
16	Tobacco Company, The American
17	Tobacco Company, Liggett Group, Inc.,
18	The Council for Tobacco Research-U.S.A.,
19	Inc., and The Tobacco Institute, Inc.,
20	Defendants.
21	
22	DEPOSITION OF RICHARD M. LOWTHER
23	Volume II, Pages 249 - 426
24	
25	
	STIREWALT & ASSOCIATES

Τ	(The following is the continued deposition
2	of RICHARD M. LOWTHER, taken pursuant to Notice of
3	Taking Deposition, under Rule 30.02(f), at the
4	offices of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, 1801 K
5	Street N.W., Washington, D.C., commencing at
6	approximately 8:37 o'clock a.m., May 8, 1997.
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(Witness previously sworn.)
3	(Plaintiffs' Exhibits 74 was
4	marked for identification.)
5	RICHARD M. LOWTHER
6	called as a witness, being previously
7	sworn, was examined and testified as
8	follows:
9	ADVERSE EXAMNATION (cont'd)
10	BY MS. WIVELL:
11	Q. Good morning, sir.
12	A. Good morning.
13	Q. Do you understand you're still under oath?
14	A. I do.
15	Q. I have shown you what has been marked as
16	Plaintiffs' Exhibit 74, which we have referred to
17	earlier in this deposition as the deadwood memo;
18	correct?
19	A. That's correct.
20	Q. And that's because in this memo Kendrick Wells
21	suggests that he clean out the deadwood of certain
22	kinds of R&D reports from Brown & Williamson's R&D
23	files; correct?
24	MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
25	A. It's my understanding that this document is a
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- 1 file note prepared by Mr. Wells indicating that he
- 2 had marked certain document referenced -- certain
- 3 documents which were retained in the R&D library with
- 4 an X which he suggested were deadwood. It's my
- 5 understanding that that was an initial review of
- 6 these documents to identify those which were not
- 7 necessarily active documents and which could be made
- 8 available for removal into an archive and storage
- 9 area as opposed to being retained in -- in the -- the
- 10 active library.
- 11 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 12 non-responsive.
- 13 Q. Sir, my question was simply: Doesn't he suggest
- 14 that certain BAT Co R&D documents be moved out of
- 15 B&W's R&D files because they should be considered
- 16 deadwood?
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 18 and answered, argumentative.
- 19 A. It's my response that they were identified by
- 20 Mr. Wells as an initial review to highlight those
- 21 which in his view were surplus to requirements in the
- 22 active files, but nevertheless would be retained by
- 23 Brown & Williamson in storage.
- 24 Q. But he refers to them as deadwood; doesn't he?
- 25 A. He does use that term, yes.

- 1 Q. And that's why we call this the deadwood memo;
- 2 right?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Okay. Now the memo starts out with a heading
- 5 and the date January 17th, 1985; right?
- 6 A. Yes, it does.
- 7 Q. And it refers to a conversation that he had had
- 8 two days earlier with Earl Kohnhorst; correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. Now the subject of this memo is document
- 11 retention; right?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. And it talks about moving documents out of R&D's
- 14 files and -- doesn't it, sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 16 A. Actually it says that he has marked documents
- 17 with an X and identified those as deadwood, and
- 18 indicates that R&D should undertake to remove
- 19 deadwoods from its files.
- 20 It is my understanding that those files were
- 21 removed from the R&D library and were placed into
- 22 storage.
- 23 Q. They were put into boxes, he -- or at least he
- 24 suggests they be put into boxes and stored in the
- 25 large basement storage area; right?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. And he even said that we should -- the -- I'm
- 3 sorry, strike that.
- 4 He even said that Brown & Williamson should
- 5 consider shipping the documents to B.A.T. when they
- 6 had been completely segregated; right?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 8 A. It's my understanding, and based on what is said
- 9 in this memo, that although the -- the files were
- 10 actually removed from the actual area into storage
- 11 and indeed were never removed from storage and have
- 12 been produced in this case, there -- there was at one
- 13 time some thought being given, and Mr. Wells' file
- 14 note indicates that at some stage after they had been
- 15 segregated consideration may be given to shipping
- 16 these documents to B.A.T. It -- it was never the
- 17 case that these documents were in fact shipped, and I
- 18 do not even know whether any consideration of that --
- 19 that kind was actually given.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 21 non-responsive.
- 22 Q. My question is simply this, Mr. Lowther: This
- 23 memo says, and I quote, "I said we should consider
- 24 shipping the documents to BAT when we had completed
- 25 segregating them; " doesn't it?

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 2 asked and answered, argumentative.
- 3 A. This file note does say that.
- 4 Q. All right. Now this file note is a note of a
- 5 discussion with Earl Kohnhorst; correct?
- 6 A. Yes, it is.
- 7 Q. And Earl Kohnhorst was then head of RD&E at
- 8 Brown & Williamson; wasn't he, sir?
- 9 A. I believe so.
- 10 Q. And Mr. Kohnhorst is one of the people who were
- 11 inadvertently omitted from the list of 77 people who
- 12 were listed in interrogatory one, which is Exhibit
- 13 26; right?
- 14 A. It is my understanding that Mr. Kohnhorst was
- 15 interviewed prior to the preparation of the
- 16 interrogatory response that I am being deposed on
- 17 today. It is my understanding that Mr. Kohnhorst's
- 18 name has been included in early interrogatory
- 19 responses and in correspondence to plaintiffs. It is
- 20 my understanding that in the preparation of this
- 21 interrogatory response, Mr. Kohnhorst's knowledge may
- 22 have been known to outside counsel, but he was not
- 23 actually interviewed during the time of this
- 24 preparation. Nevertheless, his name perhaps should
- 25 have been listed. And indeed, an interview with Mr.

- 1 Kohnhorst may have occurred after the preparation of
- 2 this interrogatory response, but the facts obtained
- 3 in that were consistent with what was contained in
- 4 the interrogatory response, so there was no need to
- 5 make a further report on it.
- 6 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike,
- 7 non-responsive.
- 8 Q. Sir, my question is a simple one: Mr.
- 9 Kohnhorst's name was omitted from the list of 77
- 10 people who were listed in Interrogatory No. 1 in
- 11 Exhibit 26; correct?
- 12 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, asked and
- 13 answered, argumentative.
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. All right. Now in this memo Mr. Wells goes on
- 16 to tell us that -- or I'm -- goes on to say that he
- 17 had marked certain documents with an X; correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And those documents marked with an X which he
- 20 suggested were deadwood fell in the behavioral and
- 21 biological study areas; right?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. These were all documents that Brown & Williamson
- 24 had received from BAT Co; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.

- 1 A. I don't know that they were all documents
- 2 received from BAT Co.
- 3 Q. So some of these documents could have been Brown
- 4 & Williamson's own research and development studies?
- 5 A. There may have been.
- 6 Q. But basically Mr. Wells was suggesting that
- 7 these kinds of deadwood studies be removed from
- 8 RD&E's files; right?
- 9 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 10 A. It's my understanding that Mr. Wells indicated
- 11 on these documents -- on this document those
- 12 documents which he felt could be removed from the
- 13 active files and removed to storage.
- 14 Q. Well sir, doesn't the document say at the top of
- 15 page two, quote, "RD&E should undertake to remove the
- 16 deadwood from its files?"
- 17 A. Yes, it does. And my answer was that while it
- 18 was removed from active files, they were nevertheless
- 19 stored within Brown & Williamson's premises in the
- 20 storage area.
- 21 Q. Okay. Let's talk about that.
- These documents were originally placed when they
- 23 were received from BAT Co in the RD&E library;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. There's a librarian for that library; right?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Her name is Carol Lincoln; right?
- 4 A. That's true.
- 5 Q. She was the librarian at the time this memo was
- 6 written; wasn't she?
- 7 A. I believe she was.
- 8 Q. And those documents that Mr. Wells marked with
- 9 an X were removed physically from the RD&E library
- 10 where they were normally kept; right?
- 11 A. It's my understanding that they were taken out
- 12 from the active library files and removed into --
- 13 into a vault area, that's correct.
- 14 Q. A vault area in the basement; right?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. Where the average Brown & Williamson employee
- 17 would have no authority to go; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 19 A. Brown & Williamson as a matter of course has
- 20 provided security over its -- its important
- 21 documents, yes.
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 23 non-responsive.
- 24 Q. The average R&D employee would not have access
- 25 to these, quote, unquote, deadwood documents; would

- 1 they?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 3 the scope.
- 4 A. I don't know what level of security was provided
- 5 over R&D documents. I know that in general R&D
- 6 documents are not available to the average employee
- 7 at Brown & Williamson. There may or may not have
- 8 been access provided to all R&D employees at the
- 9 time, I don't know.
- 10 Q. Sir, I was talking about the average -- the
- 11 average R&D employee, not the average Brown &
- 12 Williamson employee.
- 13 Isn't it true that these documents were removed
- 14 so that Brown & Williamson's R&D employees could not
- 15 have access to them without getting permission from
- 16 the legal department?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 18 A. No, I do not believe that is the case. It's my
- 19 understanding that they were removed from active
- 20 files because they were not needed on a day-to-day
- 21 basis. In the event that any R&D employee had need
- 22 to refer to these, which would be extremely unlikely,
- 23 then it would be my understanding that all he need do
- 24 is make reference to the librarian and have them
- 25 recalled from the storage area.

- 1 Q. Well how could they even know these files
- 2 existed, because isn't it true that all reference to
- 3 these quote, unquote, deadwood files were removed
- 4 from the library?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 6 A. It's my understanding that as a matter of good
- 7 business practice, the library records -- indices of
- 8 what is contained in the library are maintained on an
- 9 active basis, and if documents are removed from the
- 10 library, then the index is appropriately updated.
- 11 Q. So in other words, the answer to my question is
- 12 yes, all references to these documents, these
- 13 deadwood documents, were stricken from the RD&E
- 14 library records; weren't they?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 16 asked and answered.
- 17 A. As I said, the library index was updated
- 18 appropriately. The documents were placed into
- 19 storage and references to them were -- were obtained
- 20 during the course of late 1985, early -- early 1986
- 21 in the course of collection of documents which were
- 22 believed potentially to be responsive in
- 23 smoking-and-health litigation, and indeed these
- 24 documents were swept up as part of that process at
- 25 that time.

- 1 Q. Sir, my question is: Isn't it a fact that all
- 2 references to the quote, unquote, deadwood documents
- 3 that were taken from the RD&E library were purged
- 4 from the RD&E files?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 6 and answered.
- 7 A. As I said, I believe the library records were
- 8 updated to indicate what was active in the library,
- 9 and that would have entailed removing references to
- 10 these files which had been taken out of the library.
- 11 Q. So what you referred to as updating
- 12 appropriately really comes down to removing all
- 13 references to these documents from the RD&E library
- 14 records; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 16 and answered.
- 17 A. That is correct, and that is entirely
- 18 appropriate behavior.
- 19 Q. Now what I find curious about this is that Mr.
- 20 Wells suggested that when this be done, Mr. Kohnhorst
- 21 or any of the people who did it wouldn't make any
- 22 records, notes, or memos about this. Do you find
- 23 that curious, sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 25 A. I -- I have not prepared myself to -- in this

- 1 deposition to tell you about all the facts relating
- 2 to these events. My preparation is in connection
- 3 with the availability of documents to plaintiffs in
- 4 this case as laid out in the interrogatory response.
- 5 I can tell you from my personal viewpoint on this
- 6 that perhaps, since these files were surplus to
- 7 requirements since at this time the scientists
- 8 believed that there was no real business reason to
- 9 retain these, they did not need to refer them on --
- 10 to refer to these documents on a regular basis, it
- 11 would make no real sense to go and create additional
- 12 lists and notes of these files. Since they weren't
- 13 active files, then why make additional lists of
- 14 them? It's just a matter of efficiency and
- 15 effectiveness.
- 16 Q. Sir, Mr. Wells is not a scientist; is he?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Mr. Wells is an attorney; right?
- 19 A. Yes, he is.
- 20 Q. And he is telling the head of RD&E what he
- 21 suggests be done with these documents; right?
- 22 A. It's my understanding, as Mr. Wells indicated in
- 23 his memo, that this was a first pass --
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 25 non-responsive.

- 1 Q. Sir --
- 2 A. If I could complete my answer.
- 3 Q. Oh, I'm sorry.
- 4 A. In the third paragraph, last sentence, he said,
- 5 "The articles I had suggested were a first pass at
- 6 removing the deadwood." It's my understanding that
- 7 Mr. Wells then submitted these lists to scientists in
- 8 research and development and they then made a
- 9 determination as to whether these were indeed surplus
- 10 or not.
- 11 Q. But Mr. Wells, the non-scientist, suggested to
- 12 the head of R&D that Earl --
- 13 That's Mr. Kohnhorst; right?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. He suggested that Earl tell his people that this
- 16 was part of an effort to remove deadwood from the
- 17 files, and that neither he nor anyone else in the
- 18 department should make any notes, memos or lists;
- 19 right?
- 20 A. That is what is written in this memo, yes.
- 21 Q. So we have a non-lawyer -- I'm sorry.
- We have a lawyer here telling a scientist the
- 23 process by which these documents should be purged
- 24 from the R&D library; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.

- 1 A. As I said earlier, it is my personal
- 2 understanding or my personal interpretation that Mr.
- 3 Wells was simply saying that here's my first pass.
- 4 Your people need to review it. And as a matter of --
- 5 of -- do not -- as a matter of excessive caution,
- 6 tell them not to make additional lists which would
- 7 not be necessary in the ordinary course of business.
- 8 Q. Because, actually, paper is considered to be a
- 9 problem at Brown & Williamson; isn't it?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 11 A. I -- I think Brown & Williamson over the years
- 12 has had a document-retention policy which has
- 13 entailed keeping documents relative to smoking and
- 14 health, documents needed for legal, tax and business
- 15 reasons, and getting rid of -- of documents which it
- 16 is not required to keep. To the extent that you
- 17 could consider that surplus documents are a problem
- 18 in the context of storage costs and so on and so
- 19 forth, then you could say that -- that paper is a
- 20 problem.
- 21 Q. Well hasn't paper been considered a liability of
- 22 Brown & Williamson?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 24 A. I don't know that I could agree with that, that
- 25 characterization, no.

- 1 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 75 was marked
- 2 for identification.)
- 3 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 4 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as B2500 --
- 5 I'm sorry.
- 6 Showing you what's been marked as Plaintiffs'
- 7 Exhibit 75, it is a memo dated March 30th, 1990
- 8 regarding a records-retention video; correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. It's Bates numbered B2500951 through 52; right?
- 11 A. I believe so.
- 12 Q. Sir, would you turn to the second page of this
- 13 document and look at the second-to-the-last bullet
- 14 point and tell me whether it says there, amongst a
- 15 bullet point concerning messages to focus on, that,
- 16 quote, "...paper can be a liability or an asset?"
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to form.
- 18 A. Again, my testimony here today is on the
- 19 contents of the interrogatory response and I've not
- 20 prepared myself to talk about the -- all facts
- 21 relating to documents produced in this case.
- 22 However, I can -- I can say that from my view,
- 23 certainly in the ordinary course of business Brown &
- 24 Williamson has given thought over time to how to best
- 25 keep its records in such a way as to avoid, in

- 1 sensitive areas, items being communicated
- 2 inappropriately or inaccurately or in such a way that
- 3 they can be misinterpreted either by lawyers or
- 4 others, and that that's just good business practice
- 5 to attempt to have people aware of this issue and --
- 6 and to avoid unnecessary confusion and -- and
- 7 misinterpretation, and that it would be my personal
- 8 interpretation of a note like this.
- 9 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 10 non-responsive.
- 11 Q. Sir, my question was simply this: Doesn't it
- 12 say here in a bullet point concerning messages that
- 13 paper can be a liability?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to form,
- 15 incomplete, misleading.
- 16 A. The paragraph here indicates a reference as to
- 17 showing how paper can be a liability or an asset,
- 18 that's correct.
- 19 Q. And sir, isn't it true that when Kendrick Wells
- 20 suggested in the deadwood memo that Earl Kohnhorst
- 21 tell his people not to make lists, notes or memos of
- 22 the movement of these documents, that he was
- 23 concerned that such notes, memos or lists could be a
- 24 liability?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside

- 1 the scope.
- 2 A. I don't know. And I -- I cannot -- I cannot
- 3 tell you what Mr. Wells was thinking at that time.
- 4 You have to ask him to establish that.
- 5 Q. Well you asked him; didn't you? You talked to
- 6 him about this very memo; didn't you?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 8 A. I believe in my testimony yesterday I told you
- 9 that I spoke to Mr. Wells about the context of this
- 10 memo, and my questions were directed to the general
- 11 background of what was going on in the company at
- 12 that time.
- 13 Q. Well when you talked to Mr. Wells, had you read
- 14 the memo before you talked to him?
- 15 A. Yes, I had.
- 16 Q. Did you --
- 17 Did you talk to him in person?
- 18 A. Yes, I did.
- 19 Q. Did you have the memo there with you so you
- 20 could talk to him about it?
- 21 A. Yes, I did.
- 22 Q. Did you ask him what he meant by telling the
- 23 people not to leave tracks by making notes and memos
- 24 or lists?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside

- 1 the scope.
- 2 A. My preparation for this deposition was in the
- 3 context of what is included in the interrogatory
- 4 response. I did not reperform interviews that were
- 5 conducted as part of the due diligence review. And
- 6 as I said, I did not ask him about his intention in
- 7 that particular case.
- 8 MS. WIVELL: Sir, move to strike as
- 9 non-responsive.
- 10 Q. Did you ask him what he meant by telling the R&D
- 11 people not to make any notes, memos or lists?
- 12 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 13 and answered, argumentative.
- 14 A. I did not.
- 15 Q. Now you said a little bit ago that you did not
- 16 reperform any of the interviews that were done. You
- 17 understood Mr. Wells had been interviewed in
- 18 preparation for the interrogatory -- of the
- 19 interrogatory answers.
- 20 A. I believe that's correct.
- 21 Q. But you hadn't read any notes concerning his
- 22 interview; had you?
- 23 A. I haven't read any interview notes. I don't
- 24 know if any interview notes were prepared of the
- 25 interview with Mr. Wells.

- 1 Q. So essentially you have no first-hand knowledge
- 2 of any of the information that Mr. Wells provided
- 3 during that interview in preparation for the
- 4 interrogatory which is marked as Exhibit 26; do you,
- 5 sir?
- 6 A. I have no first-hand knowledge, and nor do I
- 7 think that in preparation for this deposition was
- 8 there a requirement that I have first-hand knowledge.
- 9 Q. Well sir, isn't it a fact that Exhibit 74, the
- 10 deadwood memo, was listed -- was provided as an
- 11 exhibit to the interrogatory answers which Brown &
- 12 Williamson filed on February 11th, 1997?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. So you didn't think it would be important to
- 15 talk to Mr. Wells about what he meant when he told
- 16 the people in RD&E not to make any file notes, memos
- 17 or lists.
- 18 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection.
- 19 Q. Even though that document was attached to the
- 20 interrogatory answers?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 22 the scope.
- 23 A. It's my understanding that I'm here today to
- 24 talk about matters of the destruction of records, the
- 25 only copy of records relating to smoking and health,

- 1 advertising, media -- marketing and promotion, and
- 2 that this particular circumstance was disclosed in
- 3 the interrogatory response not because any evidence
- 4 was found that Brown & Williamson had indeed
- 5 destroyed in this particular instance any records
- 6 relating to smoking and health, the only copy of --
- 7 of such, but simply because this document has had
- 8 some publicity and some people have misconstrued --
- 9 misconstrued the circumstances. I have appraised
- 10 myself of the background and the facts relating to
- 11 this document, did not, as part of that, discuss and
- 12 reperform other interviews held by outside counsel
- 13 with Mr. Wells.
- 14 Q. Well sir, I'm curious about how you got to that
- 15 conclusion. Could you get out Exhibit 55, the notice
- 16 for this deposition, so that we can clearly get in
- 17 hand what this deposition is about.
- Do you have it there, sir?
- 19 A. I do.
- 20 Q. This deposition, if you turn to the second page,
- 21 concerns the supplemental responses to certain
- 22 plaintiffs' interrogatories to Brown & Williamson
- 23 Tobacco Corporation served February 11th, 1997;
- 24 right?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. And this document, the deadwood memo, was an
- 2 exhibit that Brown & Williamson provided to the
- 3 plaintiffs as part of the exhibits to those
- 4 interrogatory answers served February 11th, 1997;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. So it would be reasonable to assume that you
- 8 might be asked questions about this deadwood memo at
- 9 this deposition; wouldn't you think?
- 10 A. Indeed. And I have prepared myself to do so.
- 11 Q. Okay. So how did you prepare yourself to find
- 12 out what Kendrick Wells meant when he said that the
- 13 people at RD&E shouldn't make any notes, memos or
- 14 lists of this attempt to purge the library of BAT
- 15 Co-related smoking-and-health documents?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, outside the
- 17 scope.
- 18 A. It is my understanding that this interrogatory
- 19 was about information that Brown & Williamson has
- 20 relative to the destruction of its only copy of
- 21 smoking-and-health advertising, marketing and
- 22 promotion documents, it is not about all facts known
- 23 by employees or otherwise at Brown & Williamson
- 24 relating to document destruction and motivations and
- 25 background issues like that, and I have not prepared

- 1 myself to discuss those points.
- 2 Q. So despite the fact that this document was an
- 3 exhibit to the interrogatories that you knew you were
- 4 going to come here and talk about, you didn't ask
- 5 those questions; did you, sir?
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 7 A. I have, I believe, testified to the effect that
- 8 the facts relating to the retention of the documents
- 9 referenced in this case and the facts that I know are
- 10 that all of these documents are still retained by
- 11 Brown & Williamson and indeed have been produced in
- 12 this case. That, I think, are the facts that are
- 13 relevant and are important in this issue.
- 14 Q. Sir, that's not my question. My question is
- 15 simply: You did not take upon yourself to find out
- 16 the actual context of why Mr. Wells told the RD&E
- 17 people not to make any notes, memos or lists of the
- 18 documents that were purged from the RD&E library;
- 19 isn't that true?
- 20 A. I did not --
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 22 A. I did not ask Mr. Wells that question.
- 23 Q. Now did you talk to Carol Lincoln, who's
- 24 referred to in the next paragraph?
- 25 A. I personally did not.

- 1 Q. Now it says in the next paragraph, "I mentioned
- 2 that Carol Lincoln had said that offshore research
- 3 and engineering studies sent to B&W in care of Earl
- 4 and Bob Sanford during roughly the last one year
- 5 period had not been sent to her for logging in...."
- 6 That's not all of the sentence, but let's stop
- 7 there.
- 8 She's referring to documents received from
- 9 B.A.T. and BAT Co; correct?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 11 A. Received -- received from B.A.T. affiliates, I
- 12 believe, yes.
- 13 Q. Okay. Fair enough. So that's --
- 14 That first sentence that talks about Carol
- 15 Lincoln not getting the offshore research and
- 16 engineering studies refers to materials that were
- 17 sent to B&W from B.A.T.-related companies. Fair
- 18 enough?
- 19 A. That's what it says, yes.
- 20 Q. Okay. And it was typical at Brown & Williamson
- 21 that she was supposed to get those documents so that
- 22 they could be logged in; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 24 A. It's my understanding that at this time there
- 25 may have been some delay in passing on documents to

- 1 Carol Lincoln which had been sent to Mr. Kohnhorst or
- 2 Mr. Sanford.
- 3 Q. Well you didn't talk to Ms. Lincoln. How did
- 4 you know that there was, quote, unquote, some delay?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 6 A. I did not know that.
- 7 Q. Ah. So when you said that just a few moments
- 8 ago, you really don't have any personal knowledge of
- 9 that one way or the other; do you?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And you haven't talked to anyone so that you
- 12 could, as Brown & Williamson's spokesman, testify
- 13 accurately about that; have you?
- 14 A. I have not undertaken interview of -- of Ms.
- 15 Lincoln, that's correct.
- 16 Q. And you haven't reviewed any notes that might
- 17 have been made of her interviews.
- 18 A. I have not.
- 19 Q. So you have no first-hand knowledge about why
- 20 she wasn't getting the reports to log in to the
- 21 library that she normally report -- normally got;
- 22 right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 24 A. I do not.
- 25 Q. Now have you seen the list of documents that Mr.

- 1 Wells thought were deadwood?
- 2 A. I believe I have.
- 3 Q. Before we go on to that, sir, isn't it true that
- 4 the reason these documents were moved was so that B&W
- 5 could attempt to keep them out of the hands of
- 6 plaintiffs' lawyers in product-liability suits which
- 7 had been brought against Brown & Williamson at that
- 8 time?
- 9 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 10 the scope, misleading, asked and answered.
- 11 A. I don't believe that that is the case. My
- 12 understanding is that these were files identified as
- 13 surplus to requirements which, following review by
- 14 scientists and con -- confirmed to be surplus and not
- 15 needed for active purposes, were removed into a
- 16 storage area, were nevertheless collected up and
- 17 swept during a collection process to sweep documents
- 18 which were relevant, potentially relevant in future
- 19 litigation, and have always been retained by Brown &
- 20 Williamson and indeed have been produced in this
- 21 case.
- 22 MS. WIVELL: I'm not talking about this
- 23 case, so I'm going to move to strike as
- 24 non-responsive.
- 25 Q. Isn't it true that the reason these documents

- 1 were moved was so that Brown & Williamson could keep
- 2 them out of the hands of plaintiffs' lawyers in
- 3 product-liability suits that had been brought at the
- 4 time that this memo was written?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, asked and
- 6 answered, argumentative, misleading, misstates the
- 7 record.
- 8 A. I don't believe that that is the case.
- 9 Q. Well sir, isn't it true that between 1994 --
- 10 between -- let me start again.
- 11 Isn't it true that between 1954 and 1994, Brown
- 12 & Williamson had produced only approximately 1350
- 13 pages of documents in total in the liability --
- 14 product-liability suits which had been brought
- 15 against it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 17 A. It's my understanding that, during earlier
- 18 periods of time, Brown & Williamson has in fact
- 19 produced, as you say, 1300-odd pages in an individual
- 20 smoking-and-health case, but that -- that in other
- 21 cases it has made documents available to plaintiffs.
- 22 It has complied with discovery requirements over the
- 23 years. And for various reasons in earlier cases,
- 24 production has not been made either because the case
- 25 has -- has -- has dissipated or the plaintiff's

- 1 attorney has died or for various reasons. But at --
- 2 at all times Brown & Williamson has had a policy of
- 3 keeping documents which are potentially required for
- 4 smoking-and-health litigation and has done a good job
- 5 in -- in doing so.
- 6 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 7 non-responsive.
- 8 Q. My question is simple, sir: From 1954 to 1994,
- 9 Brown & Williamson only produced a total of 1350
- 10 pages in any individual product-liability
- 11 smoking-and-health-related case. That's true; isn't
- 12 it, sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 14 asked and answered, argumentative.
- 15 A. I believe that's correct.
- 16 Q. Now the list of the studies that Mr. Wells
- 17 refers to in the deadwood memo are the B list;
- 18 correct? That's one of the lists.
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 20 A. His memorandum says that the B series or Janus
- 21 series studies and should also be considered as
- 22 deadwood.
- 23 Q. And also a list that he designated with X's next
- 24 to the list of the studies; right?
- 25 A. It's my understanding that he marked certain of

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- 1 the document references with an X.
- 2 (Plaintiffs' Exhibits 76 and 77
- 3 were marked for identification.)
- 4 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 5 Q. Sir, showing you what have been marked as
- 6 Plaintiffs' Exhibits 76 and 77, I'd like you to
- 7 identify them for record, please.
- 8 A. Plaintiffs' Exhibit 76 is a list of -- well it's
- 9 entitled "1983." It's obviously a listing by year of
- 10 various reports with headings "Number, Author" and
- 11 "Title."
- 12 Q. All right. And am I correct that it's Bates
- 13 numbered 657007582 through 657007616?
- 14 A. That appears to be correct.
- 15 Q. And you understand that this is the list that
- 16 Kendrick Wells went through and put X's next to the
- 17 documents that he thought were deadwood and should be
- 18 purged from the RD&E library; right?
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 20 A. I believe that was Mr. Wells' first pass, if you
- 21 will.
- 22 Q. Okay. So we're clear here, Exhibit 76 is the --
- 23 is one of the two lists that Mr. Wells used on which
- 24 he indicated by an X those documents he thought were
- 25 deadwood; right?

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 2 A. I don't know that two lists were prepared. I
- 3 believe this document I have seen before, and this
- 4 is, I understand, the list that Mr. Wells marked
- 5 up --
- 6 Q. All right.
- 7 A. -- with an X.
- 8 Q. And so those things that are marked with an X
- 9 are those things which he designated and suggested
- 10 were deadwood; correct?
- 11 A. I believe that's right.
- 12 Q. Sir, those documents that are marked with an X
- 13 comprise well more than 1350 pages; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 15 A. It is my understanding that somewhere in the
- 16 region of 1700 documents were identified in this --
- 17 in this circumstance.
- 18 Q. And -- and a document may be more than one page;
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. I believe so.
- 21 Q. And in fact, have you ever looked at any of the
- 22 reports that are marked with an X by Mr. Wells that
- 23 he suggested were deadwood?
- 24 A. I don't know that I have.
- 25 Q. Well you know that many are multi-page

- 1 documents; right?
- 2 A. It is my understanding that would be the case.
- 3 Q. Sir, and -- and you know for a fact that none of
- 4 the documents which were marked with an X were among
- 5 the 1350 pages that Brown & Williamson produced to
- 6 plaintiffs' counsel between the years 1954 and 1994;
- 7 right?
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 9 A. It is my understanding that the 1300-some pages
- 10 that you're referring to, if they are indeed the ones
- 11 you're referring to as the ones produced in the Dewey
- 12 case, it's my understanding -- and my testimony
- 13 yesterday may not have been entirely clear -- that
- 14 those documents which were produced in the Dewey case
- 15 were relating to advertising and marketing and not
- 16 necessarily to smoking-and-health scientific
- 17 studies. It's my understanding that that was by
- 18 agreement and during the course of objections and
- 19 stays which were entered into in the -- the Dewey
- 20 case; that while Brown & Williamson had been prepared
- 21 to produce some scientific studies in that case, they
- 22 were never actually produced. So I don't believe
- 23 that there would have been any overlap between those
- 24 1300 documents and these reports identified by Mr.
- 25 Wells.

- 1 MS. WIVELL: Objection, non-responsive.
- 2 Q. My question is simply this: None of the
- 3 documents listed here marked by an X were produced in
- 4 Dewey; were they?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, asked and
- 6 answered, misleading, misstates the record,
- 7 argumentative, improper.
- 8 A. It's my understanding that since Mr. Wells was
- 9 indicating or identifying by first pass some
- 10 scientific reports, and since the -- the production
- 11 in the Dewey case was related to advertising and
- 12 marketing, then indeed none of these would have been
- 13 produced in the Dewey case.
- 14 Q. So the answer to the question is none of these
- 15 documents were produced in Dewey; right?
- 16 A. I believe that to be correct.
- 17 Q. Now let's take a look at Exhibit 77. That is a
- 18 document Bates numbered 650035192 through 650035202;
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. And this document is the B series that's
- 22 referred to in Mr. Wells' deadwood memo on the first
- 23 page; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 25 misleading.

- 1 A. I don't know.
- 2 Q. Well all of these reports start with the letter
- 3 B; right?
- 4 A. That they do.
- 5 Yes, that's correct.
- 6 Q. And isn't it true that your counsel has written
- 7 plaintiffs' attorneys and told us that this is the
- 8 document that Mr. Wells is referring to in the second
- 9 page of his deadwood memo?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 11 A. I don't know that.
- MS. WIVELL: All right. Let's go off the
- 13 record for a moment.
- 14 THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 15 (Recess taken.)
- 16 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 17 Q. Sir, if you turn back to the deadwood memo,
- 18 which is Exhibit 74, and turn to the second
- 19 paragraph, Mr. Wells makes reference to a list on
- 20 which he has designated documents with an X; correct?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. And then the last sentence of the second
- 23 paragraph said, "I said that the 'B' series are,
- 24 quote, Janus, "J-a-n-u-s, "quote, series documents
- 25 and should also be considered as deadwood." Correct?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. Now if we take a look at Exhibit 77, that is a
- 3 list of B.A.T. biological reports, all of which begin
- 4 with a B; correct?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And if you turn to the third page, you see
- 7 references to Janus; correct? In fact that is used
- 8 in one of the titles of the documents, right?
- 9 A. I see it referenced in one -- one -- one of
- 10 these items, yes.
- 11 Q. And if you turn to the page number which is
- 12 Bates numbered 201, there is a, quote, "JANUS SAMPLE
- 13 IDENTIFICATION" list; isn't there, sir?
- 14 A. Yes, there is.
- 15 Q. Do you understand that Janus was the code
- 16 name -- (coughing) pardon me. Let me begin again.
- 17 Do you understand that Janus was the code name
- 18 for a series of projects undertaken by BAT Co
- 19 scientists in the '60s relating to smoking-and-health
- 20 issues?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 22 A. I've not prepared myself in respect of what the
- 23 Janus series is. I understand that they are
- 24 scientific studies. I don't know what -- what their
- 25 nature is.

- 1 Q. You understand that they were conducted at or
- 2 beyond -- or on behalf of BAT Co; correct?
- 3 A. I don't know that.
- 4 Q. You just don't have any information about that
- 5 subject one way or the other; right?
- 6 A. I understand that there were studies undertaken
- 7 which were of relevance at some time within the BAT
- 8 Group. I have no knowledge as to who required them,
- 9 who requested them, who -- who undertake -- undertook
- 10 these studies.
- 11 Q. Did you ask Mr. Wells when you saw him whether
- 12 the list we have in front of us which is Exhibit 77
- 13 entitled "BAT BIOLOGICAL REPORTS" was what he
- 14 referred to as the B series or the Janus series?
- 15 A. I did not.
- 16 Q. Now sir, isn't it true that shortly after Mr.
- 17 Wells' deadwood memo was written, that there were
- 18 changes established in the procedure for receiving
- 19 reports from B.A.T.-related companies?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. It's my understanding that at the time Mr. Wells
- 22 wrote this memo, the pace of -- of smoking-and-health
- 23 litigation was such that Brown & Williamson was
- 24 giving consideration to preparing itself for -- for
- 25 such potential litigation and that Brown & Williamson

- 1 initiated some programs to collect up documents
- 2 relating to smoking and health, and at the same time
- 3 consideration was being given to the issue of how
- 4 scientists in other parts of the world who are not
- 5 aware of market conditions in the U.S., who are not
- 6 aware of regulations and the litigation environment
- 7 in the U.S., may have been couching the results of
- 8 their scientific findings inappropriately or
- 9 unclearly in a way that may have been misconstrued
- 10 either deliberately or otherwise by lawyers or other
- 11 people, and that as a matter of good practice Brown &
- 12 Williamson did give consideration to, in conjunction
- 13 with -- with BAT Co, how best to perhaps educate
- 14 scientists on how they should present their facts
- 15 clearly -- clearly. And that as in my testimony
- 16 yesterday, for a short period of time indeed
- 17 documents which were issued by scientists were routed
- 18 to B&W through an outside attorney for the purposes
- 19 of provision of advice to the scientists. All of
- 20 these things were happening at -- at the time that
- 21 Brown & Williamson was initiating a program to
- 22 collect documents, which it did, and which it has
- 23 over the years collected large numbers of documents
- 24 relating to smoking and health, and indeed has
- 25 produced them in this case.

- 1 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike,
- 2 non-responsive.
- 3 Q. Sir, my question is simply this: Isn't it true
- 4 that shortly after Mr. Wells' deadwood memo was
- 5 written, that there were changes established in the
- 6 procedure for receiving B.A.T. -- reports from
- 7 B.A.T.-related companies?
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 9 A. It's my understanding that certain changes in
- 10 distribution of scientific reports were being
- 11 considered in 19 -- late 1984 or early 1985, and
- 12 indeed that timing is consistent with Mr. Wells'
- 13 memorandum.
- 14 Q. Sir, isn't it true that, from Brown &
- 15 Williamson's perspective after it was sued in the
- 16 mid-'80s, anything which might possibly add to the
- 17 burden of defending U.S. litigation should be
- 18 avoided?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 20 A. I don't believe that --
- 21 My understanding is that, as I said earlier,
- 22 steps were taken to review what could be done to
- 23 avoid misinterpretation of reports issued by people
- 24 who are not lawyers, who are not familiar with the
- 25 litigation environment, who are not familiar with the

- 1 regulatory environment in the U.S.A., and
- 2 consideration was given as to how best to avoid
- 3 circumstances where reports they were writing could
- 4 be misconstrued deliberately or otherwise. And it
- 5 was a matter of -- of preventative law, I think was a
- 6 term used earlier.
- 7 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 8 non-responsive.
- 9 Q. Sir, my question is simply this: Wasn't it
- 10 Brown & Williamson's perspective in the mid-'80s,
- 11 after it had been sued in a number of individual
- 12 smoking-and-health-related cases, that anything that
- 13 might potentially add to the burden of defending
- 14 litigation in the United States should be avoided?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 16 A. No, I haven't finished my earlier answer, which
- 17 I think is still the same question again. But as I
- 18 said, steps were taken to educate scientists in how
- 19 to communicate their facts, and at the same time
- 20 Brown & Williamson was collecting large numbers of
- 21 documents relating to smoking and health into --
- 22 Millions of pages were collected and have been
- 23 retained by counsel for smoking-and-health litigation
- 24 and have been produced in this case.
- 25 Q. Millions of pages were collected, but only 1350

- 1 pages were produced to plaintiffs' counsel between
- 2 1954 and 1994; correct?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 4 and answered, misleading.
- 5 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 6 Q. Certainly, sir.
- 7 You said millions of pages were collected, but
- 8 isn't it true that only 1350 pages were produced to
- 9 plaintiffs' counsel between 1994 -- excuse me,
- 10 between 1954 and 1994?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 12 A. It's my understanding that some 1300 pages were
- 13 produced relating to advertising and marketing in the
- 14 Dewey case. It's my understanding that many
- 15 thousands of pages have been produced by Brown &
- 16 Williamson in the -- the period you described in
- 17 connection with FTC investigations, in connection
- 18 with other cases not relating to smoking and health.
- 19 It is my understanding that over a period of time
- 20 Brown & Williamson has complied with all discovery
- 21 requests, that it has -- has done so over a period of
- 22 years. And the 1300 pages you refer to were not
- 23 smoking-and-health-related documents.
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 25 non-responsive.

- 1 Q. Sir, my question is simply this: While
- 2 millions of pages were collected, only 1350 pages
- 3 were produced to plaintiffs' counsel in
- 4 smoking-and-health-related cases between 1954 and
- 5 1994; right?
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 7 asked and answered, misleading.
- 8 A. My understanding is that Mr. Wells' reference to
- 9 the 1300 pages produced was in individual
- 10 smoking-and-health cases in that period prior to
- 11 April 1985 -- '95.
- 12 Q. And that's what I'm asking you about. So
- 13 despite the fact that we -- we know -- we have two
- 14 lists, Exhibits 77 and 76, of tests which comprise
- 15 thousands of pages of smoking-and-health-related
- 16 data, none of the reports that were mentioned on
- 17 Exhibit 77 or Exhibit 76 were provided to plaintiffs
- 18 in the period between 1954 and 1994; isn't that
- 19 true?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. I cannot confirm that none have been provided to
- 22 plaintiffs in -- in any case prior to 1995. I can --
- 23 I can tell you that my understanding is that we
- 24 produced 1300 pages in the Dewey case, which were not
- 25 related to scientific documents.

- 1 Q. And we established yesterday that between 1954
- 2 and 1994, the Dewey production was the only
- 3 production of documents in which plaintiffs' counsel
- 4 actually got documents from Brown & Williamson in
- 5 that period; right?
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 7 misleading, asked and answered.
- 8 A. No, I don't believe that's true. It's my
- 9 understanding that in some cases in the -- in Texas,
- 10 documents were made available to plaintiffs' counsel.
- 11 Q. But we established yesterday that they actually
- 12 didn't get them; did they?
- 13 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 14 and answered.
- 15 A. Nevertheless, whether they were sent to
- 16 plaintiffs or not, they were provided, they were made
- 17 available in local counsel's offices to plaintiffs in
- 18 the Texas case.
- 19 Q. Sir, are you familiar with Mr. Wells' testimony
- 20 where he said, quote, "In the Texas litigation, my
- 21 recollection is that the plaintiffs actually received
- 22 no documents?" Are you familiar with that, sir?
- 23 A. Can you tell me --
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 25 A. Could you tell me which exhibit this is?

- 1 Q. Well here, let me give you a copy of Mr. Wells'
- 2 testimony on that subject.
- 3 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 78 was marked
- 4 for identification.)
- 5 MR. SVODODA: Could we get a better
- 6 reference as to what the testimony comes from?
- 7 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 8 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked Plaintiffs'
- 9 Exhibit 78, it is a portion of Mr. Wells' testimony
- 10 from the Butler case and it's Bates numbered
- 11 689302932. Am I correct in that, sir?
- 12 A. I believe you are.
- 13 Q. All right. And if you look at page 137, lines
- 14 23, 24 and 25, does he not say, quote, "In the Texas
- 15 litigation, my recollection is that the plaintiffs
- 16 actually received no documents, " close quote?
- 17 A. It's my understanding --
- I may have seen more of this yesterday. Did --
- 19 did I only see this one page yesterday?
- 20 Q. I didn't show you this yesterday, sir.
- 21 My question is: And at lines 23 through 25,
- 22 doesn't he say, quote, "In the Texas litigation, my
- 23 recollection is that the plaintiffs actually received
- 24 no documents, " close quote?"
- 25 A. It is my understanding that Mr. Wells in his

- 1 deposition was talking about the actual presentation,
- 2 receiving of documents by plaintiffs, and he did say
- 3 that prior to April 1995 only some 1300 documents had
- 4 been received by plaintiffs. Nevertheless, in the
- 5 Texas litigation, my understanding is that those
- 6 documents were made available to plaintiffs in the
- 7 offices of in-house counsel. They did not avail
- 8 themselves of that facility.
- 9 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 10 non-responsive.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 12 Q. Sir, my question is simple: Exhibit 78, lines
- 13 23 through 25, states, quote, "In the Texas
- 14 litigation, my recollection is that the plaintiffs
- 15 actually received no documents," close quote; isn't
- 16 that true, sir?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Thank you.
- Now sir, at the time we've been talking about,
- 20 the mid-'80s when Brown & Williamson had been sued in
- 21 individual smoking-and-health-related cases, wasn't
- 22 it Brown & Williamson's position that it was opposed
- 23 to any research which has any relevance to the issue
- 24 of smoking and health because of the
- 25 product-liability situation in the United States?

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 2 misleading.
- 3 To the extent that you're reading from a
- 4 document that you've not designated, we'd appreciate
- 5 the opportunity to see the documents that you want to
- 6 talk to about with this witness so as to make the
- 7 deposition operate in a --
- 8 MS. WIVELL: I object to the speaking
- 9 objection, Mr. Schneider.
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Please don't interrupt me,
- 11 Ms. Wivell. You did it yesterday. I don't think
- 12 it's appropriate. Let me finish my statement.
- MS. WIVELL: No. I don't need your
- 14 statement. I need your objection and that's enough;
- 15 that's what the court has ordered.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Ms. Wivell, I'm asking you
- 17 to provide to us any further documents you intend to
- 18 use with the witness that you have not designated so
- 19 that we can facilitate this deposition.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Sir, do you have my question
- 21 in mind?
- THE WITNESS: No, I do not.
- 23 MS. WIVELL: All right. Let me read it
- 24 again.
- 25 Q. Now, sir, at the time we've been talking about,

- 1 the mid-'80s when Brown & Williamson had been sued in
- 2 individual smoking-and-health-related cases, wasn't
- 3 it Brown & Williamson's position that it was opposed
- 4 to any research which has any relevance to the issue
- 5 of smoking and health because of the
- 6 product-liability situation in the United States?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 8 misleading.
- 9 A. That --
- 10 My understanding is that would not be consistent
- 11 with what I would -- would believe would be Brown &
- 12 Williamson's position.
- 13 Q. Well you weren't with Brown & Williamson at the
- 14 time; right?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. And isn't it true, sir, that it was Brown &
- 17 Williamson's position that any research which is
- 18 smoking-and-health-related -- related, other than
- 19 funding of broadly-based external programs, could
- 20 lead to discoveries which might be damaging in
- 21 court?
- 22 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 23 A. Would you repeat the question, please.
- 24 Q. Certainly.
- 25 Isn't it true that it was Brown & Williamson's

- 1 position that any research which is
- 2 smoking-and-health-related, other than the funding of
- 3 broadly-based external programs, could lead to
- 4 discoveries which might be damaging in court?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 6 Ms. Wivell, I would ask you if your -- if your
- 7 question is being read from a privileged, stolen
- 8 document, I would like to see the document so that I
- 9 can have the benefit of making an objection and an
- 10 instruction. Can you represent to me whether you are
- 11 reading from a stolen, privileged document?
- MS. WIVELL: This is not my deposition, Mr.
- 13 Schneider.
- 14 Do you have the question in mind, sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: I believe it is your
- 16 deposition; you're taking it, Ms. Wivell. And I'm
- 17 asking you whether you're reading from a stolen,
- 18 privileged document.
- 19 MS. WIVELL: Do you have the question in
- 20 mind, sir?
- 21 THE WITNESS: I'd appreciate it if you'd
- 22 repeat it.
- 23 Q. Isn't it true that it was Brown & Williamson's
- 24 position that any research which is
- 25 smoking-and-health-related, other than the funding of

- 1 broadly-based external programs, could lead to
- 2 discoveries which might be damaging in court?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 4 A. I believe that, as I said earlier, Brown &
- 5 Williamson has taken steps in the past to -- to
- 6 ensure that the communication of scientific studies
- 7 are couched in clear terms, using language that can
- 8 avoid misinterpretation, which I believe is
- 9 appropriate behavior. It was not undertaken to avoid
- 10 discovery. I'm not aware of any circumstance where
- 11 Brown & Williamson has taken steps to avoid
- 12 discovery. Indeed, I know that Brown & Williamson
- 13 has over the years collected documents for the
- 14 purposes of smoking-and-health litigation, has done
- 15 so in good faith, and has produced large numbers of
- 16 documents.
- 17 I can't comment on a specific document that you
- 18 seem to be referring to at the moment.
- 19 Q. Sir, isn't it true that Brown & Williamson did
- 20 take steps to try and insulate materials that was
- 21 received from B.A.T.-related companies so that they
- 22 would not be produced in product-liability cases in
- 23 the United States?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 25 A. I -- I -- I do understand that during the period

- 1 from 1970 to 1993, as part of -- of reviewing the
- 2 document-retention practices of Brown & Williamson,
- 3 an investigation was made into reports that were
- 4 prepared for distribution to Brown & Williamson by
- 5 BAT Co, and that of some 700 -- more than 700 reports
- 6 issued in that period which reference Brown &
- 7 Williamson as a recipient, only 10 have not been
- 8 found in the files of Brown & Williamson. I do not
- 9 see that as evidence of any attempt to avoid
- 10 discovery related to this scientific research.
- MS. WIVELL: Move --
- 12 A. Other than that, I'm not sure that I can respond
- 13 to your question.
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 15 non-responsive.
- 16 Q. My question was different, sir. Isn't it true
- 17 that Brown & Williamson did take steps to try and
- 18 insulate itself from the receipt of B.A.T.-related
- 19 materials so that they would not be produced in
- 20 product-liability cases in the United States?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 22 the scope.
- 23 A. Again my response is that I have come today,
- 24 I've been prepared to speak to the facts relating to
- 25 document retention by Brown & Williamson. We have

- 1 done a good-faith review to discover circumstances
- 2 as -- as described in the court order, and
- 3 circumstances have been described in this
- 4 interrogatory response where reports have either been
- 5 routed, as I described earlier, through an attorney
- 6 for the purposes of provision of advice back to the
- 7 scientists, and I have also included in -- in the
- 8 interrogatory circumstances where some reports have
- 9 been -- consideration -- consideration has been given
- 10 as to the need for Brown & Williamson to receive
- 11 reports which have been issued by other companies in
- 12 the BAT Group. I also know that Brown & Williamson's
- 13 business requirements are not necessarily at every
- 14 time the same as those of other members of the BAT
- 15 Group. The products we make are blended U.S.-style
- 16 cigarette products; other members of the group have
- 17 Virginia-type cigarettes. So there are circumstances
- 18 where research being done in other group companies
- 19 are not relevant and are not necessary for Brown &
- 20 Williamson to receive, and consideration has been
- 21 given from time to time as to how steps could be
- 22 taken so as not to clutter up our records of those.
- 23 So in context, thought has been given to not
- 24 receiving reports in the past, but I do not -- I have
- 25 no evidence that tells me that Brown & Williamson has

- 1 at any time attempted to avoid discovery.
- 2 Q. Sir, my question was: Didn't Brown & Williamson
- 3 take steps to try and insulate itself so that
- 4 materials from B.A.T.-related companies would not be
- 5 discovered and prove damaging in courts in the United
- 6 States?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 8 A. I believe in an earlier answer I outlined
- 9 circumstances where steps were taken not to receive
- 10 reports. I cannot tell you that that was to avoid
- 11 discovery. I don't believe that to be the case.
- MS. WIVELL: This document which I am now
- 13 about to mark is marked "BAT Co CONFIDENTIAL."
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Mr. Lowther has signed an
- 15 Exhibit A.
- MS. WIVELL: I can't give it to you
- 17 (talking to Ms. Turland). I can only give it to
- 18 Jerry.
- MR. SVOBODA: No, you can give it to her.
- MS. WIVELL: Oh, I can?
- MR. SVOBODA: Yes.
- MS. WIVELL: I'm sorry.
- MR. SVOBODA: No, she's from Simpson
- 24 Thacher.
- 25 MS. WIVELL: I apologize. I thought -- I

- 1 didn't realize it. I'm sorry.
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: And Mr. Lowther has signed
- 3 an Exhibit A.
- 4 MR. SIPKINS: You can give it to all -- you
- 5 can give it to all counsel. You cannot give it to
- 6 in-house counsel or employees of the company, but you
- 7 can give it to all counsel.
- 8 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 79 was marked
- 9 for identification.)
- 10 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 11 Q. Sir, this is a document which has been marked
- 12 "BAT CO CONFIDENTIAL, MINNESOTA TOBACCO LITIGATION,"
- 13 and it's Bates numbered 301122650 through 654;
- 14 correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form. And I
- 16 want to take a moment to determine whether or not we
- 17 have any objection to the nature of this document.
- THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 19 (Discussion off the record.)
- 20 (Record read by the court reporter.)
- 21 A. I believe that's correct.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: I would like to take a
- 23 break at this point.
- 24 THE REPORTER: Off the record.
- 25 (Recess taken.)

- 1 MR. SVOBODA: This is Jerry Svoboda. Ms.
- 2 Wivell, I think the document which you have just
- 3 introduced is a document which is a privileged
- 4 document which was inadvertently produced, and which,
- 5 as I understand it, you have agreed to return. I
- 6 have asked Ms. Turland to go and call and confirm
- 7 that, but I believe that's the case. And this points
- 8 out the difficulty we have when you do not
- 9 pre-designate documents for a deposition. Now the
- 10 order requires that there be a designation of records
- 11 except for those which are true -- I forget if it
- 12 says true or genuine impeachment, and the definition
- 13 of impeachment, according to the Rules of Evidence,
- 14 is a prior inconsistent statement by this witness or
- 15 a statement for which he vouches. Obviously nothing
- 16 in this document could be either, since it's from a
- 17 different company, could either be his statement or a
- 18 statement for which he vouches, so it can't possibly
- 19 be true impeachment. As a consequence, you have, I
- 20 think, demonstrated the very problem which we've all
- 21 been uneasy with since you started doing this, is
- 22 that you have a huge category of documents which none
- 23 of us were aware you were intending to use.
- 24 And as a consequence, I state the objection that
- 25 this is a privileged document which you're not

- 1 authorized to use for two reasons: one because it's
- 2 privileged; and two, because you have not previously
- 3 designated it, giving us the opportunity to make an
- 4 appropriate objection in court. And so as a
- 5 consequence, I would request that Mr. Schneider
- 6 instruct his witness not to answer questions
- 7 regarding this document.
- 8 MS. WIVELL: Well I would like to respond
- 9 to that. Number one, I'm unaware completely of any
- 10 assertion of privilege with regard to this document.
- 11 It was produced to us, it was copied by us, and I
- 12 used it for the purpose of impeachment which is
- 13 allowed pursuant to the stipulated order of the
- 14 parties dated June 11th of, I believe it is, last
- 15 year. This witness has made statements which are
- 16 directly contrary to statements in this document, and
- 17 I believe he can be impeached by it.
- 18 Until you show me that you have made an
- 19 assertion of privilege with this document, I'm going
- 20 to continue asking him questions about it. I don't
- 21 believe it's appropriate at the time that you're
- 22 faced with documents that you don't like that you
- 23 suddenly assert a privilege.
- 24 This document was produced to us, and I can --
- 25 we can take a break and I can check how long ago it

- 1 was produced to us. It has been among the documents
- 2 that we copied. And if I have missed a letter from
- 3 counsel asserting that it was privileged, I apologize
- 4 for that, but right now I have nothing more than your
- 5 bald assertion that it has been inadvertently
- 6 produced. And so I'm going to go forward because I
- 7 do believe it is appropriate impeachment as allowed
- 8 by the stipulated order and signed by the court.
- 9 MR. SVOBODA: Well, Ms. Wivell, we can
- 10 confirm one way or the other whether I am in fact
- 11 correct or not correct. I always grant the
- 12 possibility that I'm wrong, and that's entirely the
- 13 possibility here. However, until we do that, which
- 14 will take about 10 minutes, we can certainly go on to
- 15 something else. And that's not a terrible
- 16 inconvenience for you or anyone else in this room --
- MS. WIVELL: Well I'm sorry, you're not
- 18 going to tell me how do conduct my deposition, Mr.
- 19 Svododa.
- 20 MR. SVOBODA: Please don't -- please, Ms.
- 21 Wivell, please don't interrupt me. I will never
- 22 interrupt you, I can guarantee that. Please don't
- 23 interrupt me.
- It's not a terrible inconvenience for you. I'm
- 25 not telling you how to run your deposition, I am

- 1 requesting that you do that. Otherwise the problem
- 2 will have to be resolved in a different way, which is
- 3 perhaps by calling the court, which will, of course,
- 4 take more than 10 minutes anyway. So as a
- 5 consequence, if you look at it in a practical way,
- 6 what I'm asking is entirely reasonable and is the
- 7 same sort of courtesy which I would expect that you
- 8 would demand or garner if in fact you were requesting
- 9 of me a 10-minute delay to determine whether I'm
- 10 right or not. Is that -- is that too much to ask?
- 11 MS. WIVELL: My deposition is not being
- 12 taken here. I'm the one who's being asked to be
- 13 inconvenienced.
- Now I will go on if you will tell me that it
- 15 will be 10 minutes, but in 10 minutes I'm coming back
- 16 to this subject, Jerry.
- 17 MR. SVOBODA: That's fine.
- 18 MR. SCHNEIDER: I just want --
- MR. SVOBODA: Thank you.
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: I just want to note that I
- 21 join in the objection, particularly with respect to
- 22 all that was said. But in addition, the portion
- 23 concerning showing the witness documents that have
- 24 not been previously designated, we believe that that
- 25 is not in compliance with the court's order. We do

- 1 not agree that that is proper impeachment evidence.
- 2 We do not agree with your statements in that regard,
- 3 and would ask again if you have any additional
- 4 documents that you intend to show this witness, that
- 5 you provide them to us so that we can facilitate this
- 6 deposition.
- 7 MS. WIVELL: Mr. Schneider, I have before
- 8 me the stipulated order from the parties which allows
- 9 the use of deposition -- at depositions of genuine
- 10 impeachment which are not subject to the
- 11 pre-designation requirement of the court's order of
- 12 March 20th, 1996.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: We disagree.
- 14 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 15 Q. Sir, isn't it true that as a result of concerns
- 16 over documents being produced in court which could be
- 17 damaging to Brown & Williamson, that procedures were
- 18 established at Brown & Williamson where documents
- 19 received from B.A.T. companies would be kept out of
- 20 the R&D library?
- 21 A. Would you please repeat your question.
- 22 Q. Certainly.
- Isn't it true that as a result of concerns over
- 24 documents being produced in court which could be
- 25 possibly damaging to Brown & Williamson, that

- 1 procedures were established at Brown & Williamson
- 2 where documents received from B.A.T. companies would
- 3 be kept out of the R&D library?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 5 A. I think I can respond to that by saying that it
- 6 is my understanding, as indeed circumstances have
- 7 been described in our interrogatory response, that
- 8 consideration was given to, A, to have surplus
- 9 documents removed from the library because they're
- 10 not needed on an active basis, B, to -- at some time
- 11 in the early '80s to review the necessity for Brown &
- 12 Williamson to receive research from other B.A.T.
- 13 companies in which it was not interested in following
- 14 for business reasons, and indeed there were other
- 15 circumstance where reports were directed which would
- 16 normally have been given to Brown & Williamson
- 17 through outside counsel for the provision of legal
- 18 advice. Those circumstances are included in the
- 19 interrogatory response. There may be other
- 20 circumstances which, after due diligence, Brown &
- 21 Williamson has not been aware, but it has undertaken
- 22 due diligence and has in good faith produced evidence
- 23 of documents which are the only copy of
- 24 smoking-and-health and advertising, marketing,
- 25 promotion documents which may have been destroyed,

- 1 but it is not aware of circumstances not included in
- 2 its interrogatory response, but if it does become
- 3 aware, then the response may be supplemented at a
- 4 later date, as indicated in the response.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 6 non-responsive.
- 7 Q. Sir, isn't it true that as a result of concerns
- 8 over documents being produced in court which could
- 9 possibly be damaging to Brown & Williamson, that
- 10 procedures were established in the mid-'80s at Brown
- 11 & Williamson where documents received from B.A.T.
- 12 companies would be kept out of the R&D library?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 14 and answered, misleading, outside the scope.
- 15 A. I --
- 16 My response to that is that some circumstances
- 17 have been included in the interrogatory response
- 18 where Brown & Williamson did take steps not to
- 19 receive certain scientific research, and those
- 20 circumstances are described in the response.
- 21 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 80 was
- 22 marked for identification.)
- 23 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 24 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 25 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 80, it is a memo Bates numbered

- 1 512101154; correct?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. And it is a memo from Earl Kohnhorst to Dr.
- 4 Esterle with a carbon copy to M. L. Reynolds;
- 5 correct?
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 7 A. Could you repeat that, please.
- 8 Q. Certainly.
- 9 It's a memo from Earl Kohnhorst; correct?
- 10 A. Yes, it is.
- 11 Q. So Dr. Esterle with a copy to M. L. Reynolds;
- 12 right?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. Now sir, this -- the subject of this is "REPORT
- 15 DISTRIBUTION; " correct?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Now this particular document was not referenced
- 18 in the interrogatory answers; was it?
- 19 A. It is my understanding that this document
- 20 references a matter of how reports are to be
- 21 distributed internally within Brown & Williamson, and
- 22 therefore it was not necessary to report in the
- 23 interrogatory response which was about routing of
- 24 documents in such a way that they're not received by
- 25 Brown & Williamson.

- 1 Q. Well sir, the document --
- 2 The interrogatory also covers document transfers
- 3 too; doesn't it?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 5 A. I'm not --
- 6 I don't know that it does cover document
- 7 transfers.
- 8 Q. All right. Well let me ask you this: Mr.
- 9 Esterle and Mr. Kohnhorst are two of the people who
- 10 were inadvertently left off the list of 77 people who
- 11 were interviewed about the subject of document
- 12 transfer and document destruction; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 14 A. It's my understanding that both their names have
- 15 been included in interrogatory responses. And as I
- 16 said yesterday, their names were not included in part
- 17 one of the interrogatory response --
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike --
- 19 A. -- inadvertently.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 21 non-responsive.
- 22 Q. My question is simple and it relates just to the
- 23 list of 77 names in Exhibit 26. Do you have that in
- 24 mind?
- 25 A. I do.

- 1 Q. All right. And isn't it true that Mr. Esterle's
- 2 name and Mr. Kohnhorst's name were two that were
- 3 inadvertently omitted from that list of names?
- 4 A. I believe that their names were not included in
- 5 that listing.
- 6 Q. Now this document concerns report distribution;
- 7 doesn't it?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And it says that the procedures for receiving
- 10 external reports from the research centers has been
- 11 changed; right?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. Now the research centers are the B.A.T.-related
- 14 companies; aren't they?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. Now it says here that basically if there is any
- 17 sensitive issue in any of those reports, they should
- 18 be reviewed with Kendrick Wells before they're put in
- 19 the library system; right?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 22 Q. Well let me rephrase it.
- The document says, quote, "You should pay
- 24 particular attention to any sensitive issues...." Am
- 25 I correct so far?

- 1 A. Yes, you are.
- 2 Q. And it says, "...in those cases" -- in other
- 3 words, cases where there were sensitive issues in the
- 4 report that B&W is receiving from the BAT Co
- 5 companies -- when you have those concerns, you should
- 6 review them with Mr. Wells before they're submitted
- 7 to the library system; right?
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 9 A. It says approximately that.
- 10 Q. And then it says, "In addition, please call to
- 11 my attention any reports you believe should not be
- 12 held in the library; "right?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. Now when Mr. Kohnhorst was interviewed in
- 15 response -- or I'm sorry. Let me begin again.
- 16 When Mr. Kohnhorst was interviewed to determine
- 17 whether he knew anything about the interrogatory
- 18 answers that were filed by B&W February 11th of this
- 19 year, was he asked about this document?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. As I indicated, I have not prepared myself as to
- 22 the content of more than 77 interviews that were
- 23 conducted in the preparation of this interrogatory
- 24 response. I cannot tell you what the nature of that
- 25 interview with Mr. Kohnhorst was.

- 1 Q. Well, did counsel tell you that I specifically
- 2 asked that you did educate yourself about the subject
- 3 matter of those 77 interviews?
- 4 A. It is my understanding that you did write a
- 5 letter to counsel very, very recently on that, that
- 6 issue.
- 7 Q. And in that letter I said that I really thought
- 8 it was important that you acquaint yourself with the
- 9 subject matter of those 77 interviews; didn't I?
- 10 A. I don't know that.
- 11 Q. Did you see the letter?
- 12 A. I did not.
- 13 Q. Did counsel tell you that I wanted you to become
- 14 knowledgeable about what B&W had found out in those
- 15 77 interviews?
- 16 A. I would not characterize my knowledge about this
- 17 as -- as -- in that way. I was aware that they had
- 18 received that -- that letter from you.
- 19 Q. And -- and you were aware that I had requested
- 20 in that letter that you do get up to speed and become
- 21 knowledgeable about the facts in those 77 interviews;
- 22 right?
- 23 A. I believe that's correct.
- 24 Q. And you chose not to; is that right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.

- 1 A. It is my understanding that I've come here today
- 2 to be deposed on the facts that Brown & Williamson
- 3 knew relative to the -- the document-retention issue
- 4 as indicated in the interrogatory response. I have
- 5 not acquainted myself with every single interview and
- 6 every single fact known by Brown & Williamson
- 7 employees about document-retention issues, and nor do
- 8 I think it would be reasonable for me to have -- have
- 9 to do that.
- 10 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 11 non-responsive.
- 12 Q. Sir, you did not acquaint yourself with the
- 13 facts in the 77 interviews; did you?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, asked and
- 15 answered, argumentative.
- 16 A. I -- I did acquaint myself with certain facts
- 17 relating to document destruction and routing as laid
- 18 out in the interrogatory response, so certain facts I
- 19 am acquainted with. Other facts are not germane, not
- 20 pertinent, and I've not prepared myself to -- to know
- 21 those facts for this deposition.
- 22 Q. Just so the ladies and gentlemen of the jury can
- 23 be clear about this, then, you knew you were coming
- 24 here to testify about the interrogatories; right?
- 25 A. I did.

- 1 Q. You knew that the interrogatories contained
- 2 reference to facts learned from 77 different Brown &
- 3 Williamson employees; right?
- 4 A. I did.
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 6 Q. And you chose not to acquaint yourself or
- 7 educate yourself about the facts those 77 different
- 8 people gave to Brown & Williamson's lawyers in
- 9 preparation for -- of that interrogatory; right?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 11 A. My response is that I could not possibly have
- 12 reperformed 77 interviews and undertaken inquiries
- 13 along the same lines as outside counsel, and I did
- 14 not do that.
- 15 Q. Oh. And you understood I didn't ask that you
- 16 reinterview 77 people. You understand I didn't ask
- 17 that; don't you?
- 18 A. No, I did not understand that.
- 19 Q. You understand that I asked that you read the
- 20 interview notes and make them available at this
- 21 deposition; didn't you?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 23 A. I don't understand that, no. That's -- that's
- 24 not correct.
- 25 Q. Did you understand that I wrote, and I quote,

- 1 "So there is no misunderstanding, at this deposition
- 2 we expect to cover all aspects of document
- 3 transfer/destruction since that was the subject of
- 4 plaintiffs' interrogatories and defendants' answers
- 5 dated February 11th, 1997." Did you understand that
- 6 would be what we would be talking about today?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 8 A. My understanding is that I am to talk about the
- 9 facts as contained in the interrogatory response.
- 10 Q. Yes. And the 77 individuals who were listed in
- 11 that response were interviewed, there were notes of
- 12 them, and you just chose not to read them; right?
- 13 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form and
- 14 specifically object to the extent that you're trying
- 15 to inquire into the work-product activities of the
- 16 lawyer and the lawyer -- attorney-client privilege
- 17 discussions.
- 18 A. I did not review any interview notes. I don't
- 19 know the extent to which interview notes were taken.
- 20 I know some were. And I did not believe it was
- 21 necessary for me to review those in preparation for
- 22 this day, and nor have I seen any interview notes.
- 23 Q. So with regard to that portion of the
- 24 interrogatory answer, you're just not suitably
- 25 informed enough to talk about what those 77 people

- 1 knew; right?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to form.
- 3 A. I believe I have prepared today to talk about
- 4 some of the facts those people knew which have been
- 5 included in this interrogatory response. I'm not
- 6 prepared to talk about all the facts that those
- 7 people knew, some of which are not relevant in this
- 8 case.
- 9 Q. Okay. But you knew that the subject of document
- 10 transfer was relevant because that's part of the
- 11 subject of the interrogatory; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 13 outside the scope.
- 14 A. I don't believe that transfer is an issue on
- 15 which I am being deposed at -- at this time.
- 16 Q. So you are just unprepared to talk about
- 17 document transfers like that talked about in Exhibit
- 18 80.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 20 misleading.
- 21 A. It's my understanding that this -- this Exhibit
- 22 80 does not reference document transfers, it's my
- 23 understanding that it references distribution of
- 24 external reports within Brown & Williamson.
- 25 Q. Well isn't a transfer of a document from BAT Co

- 1 to Brown & Williamson a transfer?
- 2 A. It's my understanding that in earlier
- 3 interrogatories the issue of transfer has been -- the
- 4 question of documents which may have been --
- 5 allegedly been sent from Brown & Williamson to
- 6 affiliates or third parties for purposes of indexing,
- 7 destruction, various other issues, I've not prepared
- 8 myself for that -- that topic today, but I think it
- 9 was in connection with Brown & Williamson's transfer
- 10 and -- and not in relation to other companies, for
- 11 whom I cannot speak.
- 12 Q. Sir, isn't it true that at or around the time
- 13 that this document, Exhibit 80, was written, that
- 14 Brown & Williamson established shredders on each one
- 15 of the floors of the Brown & Williamson Tower?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 17 argumentative, misleading.
- 18 A. I don't recall the -- the -- the date of the
- 19 establishment of shredders in the Brown & Williamson
- 20 Tower. I do know that shredders were made available
- 21 and that clearly Brown & Williamson has taken steps
- 22 to -- to destroy documents that it is not required to
- 23 retain from time to time, and shredders were placed
- 24 for that purpose.
- 25 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 81 was marked

- for identification.)
- 2 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 3 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 4 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 81, it is a document dated April
- 5 30th of 1985; correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Bates numbered 512102141-42; correct?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And this is a Brown & Williamson document to all
- 10 vice-presidents from W. L. DeWitt; correct?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. And it talks about in part, on the
- 13 second-to-the-last paragraph of the last page, the
- 14 fact that documents -- I'm sorry, the fact that
- 15 shredders will soon be installed on each floor in the
- 16 B&W Tower and made available to other locations as
- 17 requested; correct?
- 18 A. I'm sorry, where -- where were you referencing?
- 19 Q. The first sentence of the second-to-the-last
- 20 paragraph.
- 21 A. Yes, indeed.
- 22 Q. And it says, "Shredders will soon be installed
- 23 on each floor in the B&W Tower and made available to
- 24 other locations as requested; " correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. Now this document is dated within approximately
- 2 15 days of the document concerning report
- 3 distribution that we looked at which was Exhibit 80;
- 4 right?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And sir, isn't it a fact that documents such as
- 7 the "Secret U.S. Interntional Brand Strategies"
- 8 which are mentioned on that same page were shredded
- 9 by Brown & Williamson as part of its regular course
- 10 of business?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 12 misleading, misstates what the document says.
- 13 A. It's my understanding that this document is a
- 14 report on the results of some checks undertaken by
- 15 auditors to review accessibility to documents, many
- 16 of which the Brown & Williamson -- which Brown &
- 17 Williamson had concerns could be used by competition
- 18 to provide them with an unfair advantage in the
- 19 marketplace. Brown & Williamson has always treated
- 20 confidentiality of its documents as an important
- 21 issue, and this -- this document is evidence of some
- 22 checks that were undertaken in the normal course of
- 23 business to make sure that people were in compliance
- 24 with its general standards of -- of that type.
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as

- 1 non-responsive.
- 2 Q. My question is, sir: Isn't it a fact that
- 3 documents such as the one referred to at the top of
- 4 the page, "Secret U.S. Interntional Brand
- 5 Strategies," were shredded in the regular course of
- 6 business at Brown & Williamson in the mid-'80s?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 8 A. It's my understanding this document indicates
- 9 that that document had been discarded in a waste
- 10 basket, and the concern was that that could fall into
- 11 competition hands. It is also my understanding that
- 12 Brown & Williamson has had a long-time policy of
- 13 retaining documents which are required for legal, tax
- 14 and business purposes. That does not mean to say
- 15 that every single copy of every single document
- 16 relating to marketing through all -- at all times is
- 17 required to be retained and may not be destroyed.
- 18 And in fact there's evidence that this report has
- 19 been destroyed, but I don't see anything sinister in
- 20 that.
- 21 Q. Sir, I'm not implying anything sinister. My
- 22 question is simple. Let me restate it.
- Isn't it a fact that documents such as the one
- 24 referenced at the top of the page, "Secret U.S.
- 25 Interntional Brand Strategies," were shredded in the

- 1 regular course of business at Brown & Williamson in
- 2 the mid-'80s?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 4 A. Over the years Brown & Williamson has destroyed
- 5 many documents; otherwise, we would be swamped in
- 6 storage areas. I'm absolutely certain that we have
- 7 destroyed documents such as "U.S. International Brand
- 8 Strategies," and in the process of destroying that we
- 9 would hope that they're shredded because documents
- 10 like this could be very useful to the competition.
- 11 Q. Sir, the document "Secret U.S. Interntional
- 12 Brand Strategies" was not kept and produced to the
- 13 plaintiffs in this litigation; was it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 15 A. I do not know.
- 16 Q. Well if it --
- 17 If Brown & Williamson had it, it should have
- 18 been produced to the plaintiffs in this litigation;
- 19 wouldn't you think?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 21 argumentative, misleading.
- 22 A. I do not know whether a document of this nature
- 23 would be responsive in this case.
- 24 Q. Well sir, let me tell you this: I have made a
- 25 good-faith effort to try and find this document. Can

- 1 you explain to me why it would not be produced to us
- 2 if Brown & Williamson had kept this document?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 4 misleading.
- 5 A. I think that this document, if it were
- 6 responsive -- and Brown & Williamson has collected
- 7 documents over the years and indeed as part of
- 8 preparation to deal with the discovery in this case
- 9 has reviewed on a document-by-document basis huge
- 10 quantities of documents retained for responsiveness
- 11 on a document-by-document basis -- if this document
- 12 were reviewed in that -- in that process and were
- 13 determined to be responsive, it would have been
- 14 produced unless it were inadvertently missed.
- 15 Q. Or unless it were destroyed; correct?
- 16 A. Clearly if a document had been destroyed in
- 17 earlier years and were not on hand, it could not be
- 18 produced.
- 19 Q. And just so we're clear here, the policy -- the
- 20 policy of establishing legal holds at Brown &
- 21 Williamson only was established in 1990; wasn't it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 23 A. I don't believe that's correct. It's my
- 24 understanding that Brown & Williamson during earlier
- 25 periods put employees on notice from time to time

- 1 when legal holds were in place that this was well
- 2 understood by employees in the company, but that the
- 3 formal policy of document retention was not actually
- 4 implemented until 1990. And nevertheless, prior to
- 5 that time legal holds were communicated and adopted
- 6 within the company.
- 7 Q. Sir, you testified yesterday that in 1990 the
- 8 policy of holding documents for legal reasons was
- 9 formalized; correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Can you direct us to any document that suggests
- 12 that documents relating to smoking and health were
- 13 placed on legal hold prior to, say, 1989?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 15 misleading.
- 16 A. It is my understanding that memoranda have been
- 17 found which indicate that legal holds have been
- 18 communicated within the company prior to 1989. I
- 19 can't point you to a specific example at this time.
- 20 Q. Well actually there was an example that was
- 21 attached as a document to the -- an exhibit to the
- 22 interrogatory answers, but that didn't relate to a
- 23 smoking-and-health-related legal hold; did it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 25 A. Could you repeat the question, please.

- 1 Q. Certainly.
- 2 There was a document concerning a legal hold
- 3 that was produced as an exhibit, I believe it's
- 4 Exhibit 2 to the interrogatories that are the subject
- 5 matter of this deposition. That legal hold did not
- 6 apply to a smoking-and-health-related case; did it,
- 7 sir?
- 8 A. It's my understanding that was relative to a
- 9 price-fixing case, that's correct.
- 10 Q. That's right.
- MS. WIVELL: Why don't we mark that as the
- 12 next exhibit.
- 13 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 82 was marked
- for identification.)
- 15 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 16 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 17 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 82, that's the legal-hold-related
- 18 document that is Exhibit 2 to the interrogatory
- 19 answers which we've -- which Brown & Williamson
- 20 filed; correct?
- 21 A. I believe that's correct.
- 22 Q. Now sir, Brown & Williamson also produced
- 23 another document from Kendrick Wells dated February
- 24 7th, 1986 related to document retention; correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. Now that document does not say that all
- 2 smoking-and-health-related documents should be
- 3 retained for legal holds; does it?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 5 A. The document that you're referencing dated
- 6 February 1986 from Mr. Wells indicates that records
- 7 shall be placed in storage because of pending
- 8 litigation; it does not spell out that's relating to
- 9 smoking and health, but it would be my understanding
- 10 that that was generally understood within the
- 11 company.
- 12 Q. Well sir, this document didn't even go to the
- 13 R&D department; did it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 15 A. I don't know to whom it was addressed.
- 16 Q. Well let's look at the top of the page. Who's
- 17 Darrell Lawrence?
- 18 A. I do not know.
- 19 Q. Who is I. Terry?
- 20 A. I don't know.
- 21 Q. Who is C. Heger?
- 22 A. Mr. Heger was at one time the CFO at Brown &
- 23 Williamson.
- 24 Q. How about Ernie Pepples, he was a lawyer; right?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. And Sachs was a lawyer; right?
- 2 A. I believe that's correct.
- 3 Q. This document didn't go to anybody at R&D; did
- 4 it?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Didn't go to Mr. Kohnhorst; right?
- 8 A. It's my understanding that this memo is a
- 9 response to an inquiry raised by Mr. Lawrence, and
- 10 there was no reason to copy it to R&D.
- 11 Q. Ah. Because R&D wasn't told that all of their
- 12 files should go into storage or be kept because of
- 13 litigation. Was that department told that?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- MS. WIVELL: I object to that form, too.
- 16 Let me start again.
- 17 Q. R&D wasn't told that all of their files should
- 18 be stored; correct?
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 20 A. It's my understanding that at this time,
- 21 February 1986, Brown & Williamson swept all its
- 22 documents for litigation purposes. It is my
- 23 understanding that R&D documents were the first
- 24 documents that were swept. And indeed, it was well
- 25 known throughout the company that documents of that

- 1 nature should be retained and placed on hold.
- 2 It's my understanding that this memorandum was
- 3 written to an individual who is not in R&D in
- 4 response to his request as to what he could do with
- 5 huge amounts of records which were being collected in
- 6 storage. The advice given to him was that because of
- 7 pending litigation they should all be retained.
- 8 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 9 non-responsive.
- 10 Q. Sir, my question was: R&D was not told that all
- 11 of their files should be stored; were they?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 13 asked and answered, argumentative, misleading,
- 14 misstates the record.
- 15 A. It is my understanding that employees within R&D
- 16 in the 1986 period would have had a good
- 17 understanding that their records should be retained,
- 18 and over -- over the years that understanding has
- 19 been in R&D. This particular memo does not -- was
- 20 not communicated to R&D, and there was no reason to
- 21 do so.
- 22 MS. WIVELL: All right. Let's mark the
- 23 memo you and I have been talking about.
- 24 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 83 was marked
- for identification.)

- 1 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 2 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 3 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 83, it's the memo you and I have
- 4 just been discussing from Kendrick Wells dated
- 5 February 7th, 1986 to Darrell Lawrence regarding
- 6 records retention; correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. This is a B&W document; right?
- 9 A. Yes, it is.
- 10 Q. It doesn't have a Bates number; does it?
- 11 A. It appears not to.
- 12 Q. And that means that it was not produced in the
- 13 Minnesota depository; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to form.
- 15 A. I don't know whether this document was produced
- 16 or not.
- 17 Q. And just so we're clear here, this document does
- 18 not tell R&D that it should not destroy any
- 19 documents; right?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. This document was not issued to the R&D
- 22 department, that's correct.
- 23 Q. And sir, you cannot point to and you don't have
- 24 with you a single document that directs R&D not to
- 25 destroy its files in this mid-1980s period.

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 2 A. I can't point you to a specific document. I am
- 3 aware, as I said earlier, that Brown & Williamson's
- 4 files were swept, and all these documents in the R&D
- 5 area were the first documents that were collected at
- 6 this time in late 1985, early 1986. As part of that
- 7 sweep procedure I'm sure that people within R&D would
- 8 have been aware of that, and awareness within the
- 9 company about smoking-and-health issues had been high
- 10 at that time, but this specific document was not
- 11 passed to R&D.
- 12 Q. Sir, isn't it true that this sweep that you have
- 13 been referring to several different times was for the
- 14 purpose of collecting documents to help Brown &
- 15 Williamson defend itself in litigation?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 17 A. It is my understanding that the sweep was taken
- 18 and -- and has been -- other sweeps have been done
- 19 from time to time for the purposes of preparing Brown
- 20 & Williamson for potential litigation. As a matter
- 21 of efficiency it -- it's done to collect documents in
- 22 one place rather than having to keep going back from
- 23 time to time as other litigation takes place, and
- 24 it's not taken to -- for the pure purpose of
- 25 defending Brown & Williamson --

- 1 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike --
- 2 A. -- but for discovery purposes too.
- 3 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 4 non-responsive.
- 5 Q. Sir, isn't it true that the sweep that you were
- 6 referring to that was done at the time of this memo
- 7 in the mid-'80s was done for the purpose of
- 8 collecting documents to help Brown & Williamson
- 9 defend itself in litigation?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 11 asked and answered.
- 12 A. And my response, I believe, is that Brown &
- 13 Williamson conducted these sweeps as a matter of
- 14 efficiency to prepare itself for future litigation,
- 15 including its defense and in order to prepare for
- 16 discovery requests of plaintiffs.
- 17 Q. Sir, have you read Kendrick Wells' -- no, let me
- 18 start again.
- 19 You didn't take part in these sweeps; did you?
- 20 A. I was not employed by Brown & Williamson in
- 21 1985, 1986. No, I did not.
- 22 Q. Have you talked with Kendrick Wells, who was
- 23 employed at the time and who was responsible for
- 24 product-liability-litigation document production,
- 25 about why these sweeps were done?

- 1 A. I have had conversations with Ernest Clements
- 2 who was involved in those sweeps at the time. I have
- 3 not discussed these sweeps with Mr. Wells.
- 4 Q. All right. Ernest Clements is a legal
- 5 assistant; right?
- 6 A. That's correct. Or paralegal I believe.
- 7 Q. Paralegal. Not a lawyer.
- 8 A. I believe he is a paralegal.
- 9 Q. And Mr. Wells was the person at Brown &
- 10 Williamson responsible for the document productions
- 11 in the mid-'80s; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 13 A. I don't know exactly what Mr. Wells' specific
- 14 responsibilities were in the mid-'80s.
- 15 Q. Well when you talked to him, did you ask him
- 16 about the document sweeps?
- 17 A. I did not.
- 18 Q. And if Mr. Wells had testified that those
- 19 document sweeps were done for the purpose of
- 20 collecting documents to defend Brown & Williamson,
- 21 you're just unaware of that; is that right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 23 A. I don't know what Mr. Wells has -- has indicated
- 24 in his earlier testimony.
- 25 Q. So in your preparation for today's deposition

- 1 you didn't read Mr. Wells' testimony to that effect?
- 2 A. I don't believe I had -- I did.
- 3 MS. WIVELL: All right. Why don't we go
- 4 off the record for a moment.
- 5 THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 6 (Recess taken.)
- 7 (Exhibit 19 was handed to the witness.)
- 8 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 9 Q. Sir, during the break I had the reporter hand
- 10 you Plaintiffs' Exhibit 19; correct?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. This is a deposition of Kendrick Wells taken
- 13 September 8th, 1994 in the Maddox case; right?
- 14 A. I can confirm the date. I --
- Yes, it looks like it's the Maddox case.
- 16 Q. I ask you to turn to page 35. Do you have it?
- 17 A. I do.
- 18 Q. And sir, do you say -- see there a discussion
- 19 that Mr. Wells -- I'm sorry, let me start again.
- 20 Do you see there Mr. Wells answering a question
- 21 where he gives information about the sweep that was
- 22 done in the mid-'80s?
- 23 A. I have read his -- his answer.
- 24 Q. All right. And you see there that he's talking
- 25 about hiring the law firms to sweep the files of

- 1 Brown & Williamson; correct?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. And he said that he did so -- or Brown &
- 4 Williamson did so so that the lawyers could, quote,
- 5 "prepare" -- I'm sorry, I -- let me -- strike
- 6 that. Let me begin again.
- 7 Do you see there where he says we employ the law
- 8 firms to select documents from our files that would
- 9 be useful in a broad sense, relevant in a broad
- 10 sense, to the preparation of defense of product
- 11 litigation?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. And he goes on to say that they hire -- Brown &
- 14 Williamson hired lawyers to, quote, "help us in
- 15 defending product litigation; " correct?
- 16 A. I think that that sentence or that paragraph or
- 17 that -- that comment of Mr. Wells was in connection
- 18 with identifying the kinds of documents that were
- 19 collected and not necessarily restricted to one case.
- 20 Q. Fair enough. But the kinds of --
- 21 The type of documents that the lawyers selected
- 22 in the sweeps in the mid-'80s were the documents that
- 23 they thought would be helpful in defending product
- 24 litigation; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.

- 1 A. And as Mr. Wells said, in a broad sense that's
- 2 correct.
- 3 Q. And he went on to say that Brown & Williamson
- 4 expected its counsel, in selecting documents, to
- 5 select documents they believe are within the broad
- 6 range of preparing to defend the litigation; right?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 8 A. It does say that, yes.
- 9 Q. Now sir, he did not say that they were trying to
- 10 find all relevant documents relating to smoking and
- 11 health or marketing of cigarettes; did he, sir?
- 12 A. It's my understanding that Mr. Wells' response
- 13 indicated that documents were selected in a broad
- 14 sense in preparation of defense of product
- 15 litigation, and that it was done not for a single
- 16 case but on a broad basis. So in my view that's -- a
- 17 broad sweep of -- of documents relating to smoking
- 18 and health would -- would have been done in that
- 19 time.
- 20 Q. And the documents which would have been selected
- 21 to be kept were those documents which they believed
- 22 would be helpful in preparing to defend the
- 23 litigation; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 25 misleading.

- 1 A. Obviously, documents which will be presented as
- 2 evidence in a court case are reviewed as a matter of
- 3 preparing the defense for Brown & Williamson and
- 4 reviewed by plaintiffs for the other side. Obviously
- 5 they're used by Brown & Williamson for defense
- 6 purposes and also for discovery purposes. That was
- 7 the -- the reason for conducting these sweeps.
- 8 Q. Sir, you don't know that for a fact; do you?
- 9 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 10 A. It is my understanding that that was the reason
- 11 for the -- for this -- the document sweeps.
- 12 Q. And you haven't gotten that information from
- 13 anyone who has first-hand knowledge about what Mr.
- 14 Wells thought about this document production; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 16 A. I have not inquired into the interview with Mr.
- 17 Wells, as I indicated earlier.
- 18 Q. And you didn't talk to Mr. Wells about the
- 19 purpose for the document sweep in the mid-'80s; did
- 20 you?
- 21 A. I did not.
- 22 Q. And so you, as you sit here today, have no
- 23 individual knowledge that contradicts Mr. Wells when
- 24 he says that the lawyers selected those documents
- 25 that would be helpful to -- and I quote -- "defend

- 1 the litigation; "correct?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object -- objection to the
- 3 form, misquotes even the deposition of Mr. Wells,
- 4 misstates the record, argumentative, asked and
- 5 answered, misleading.
- 6 A. My response to that is that I did talk to Ernest
- 7 Clements who was -- was directly involved in sweeps
- 8 of Brown & Williamson's files in 1985, 1986, and it
- 9 is my understanding that a very thorough sweep was
- 10 undertaken, and I don't believe that any knowledge I
- 11 have is in contradiction with anything said by Mr.
- 12 Wells.
- 13 Q. Sir, you haven't talked to any lawyer -- strike
- 14 that.
- 15 Did Mr. Clements tell you that Brown &
- 16 Williamson attempted to find every relevant document?
- 17 A. Mr. Clements told me that he was always amazed
- 18 at the extent and the trouble that Brown & Williamson
- 19 took to ensure that it retained documents. It went
- 20 through, I think his -- his -- his terms were
- 21 unbelievable hoops in connection with some of the
- 22 activities it undertook to clear out unnecessary
- 23 documents, to make sure that it did not dispose of
- 24 documents which may be responsive in the future. And
- 25 based on -- on that, my understanding is that Brown &

- 1 Williamson has always done an excellent job in
- 2 retaining documents.
- 3 Q. Sir, my question --
- 4 MS. WIVELL: I move to strike as
- 5 non-responsive.
- 6 Q. Did Mr. Clements tell you that Brown &
- 7 Williamson attempted to find every relevant
- 8 document?
- 9 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 10 A. It's my understanding that these sweeps were
- 11 taken on a broad basis without -- with --
- 12 "Relevant documents" is a definition that
- 13 varies from time to time depending on what litigation
- 14 is pending. These sweeps were undertaken with a view
- 15 to select documents on a broad basis which may be
- 16 relevant in future litigation.
- 17 Q. Well sir, that's not what Mr. Wells said in his
- 18 sworn testimony; did he?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 20 Q. He said that documents were collected to help
- 21 prepare to defend the litigation; didn't he, sir?
- 22 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 23 misleading.
- 24 A. He said that documents were selected that would
- 25 be useful in a broad sense. He did say that one of

- 1 the reasons for doing that was to prepare a defense,
- 2 and that is perfectly -- that's perfectly normal in,
- 3 you know, the normal course of defending yourself
- 4 against allegations.
- 5 Q. And in the broad sense, since I've accused --
- 6 been accused of being misleading, did he not say,
- 7 quote, "...we expect our counsel in selecting
- 8 documents to select documents they believe were
- 9 within the broader area of preparing to defend the
- 10 litigation, " close quote?
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 12 misleading, doesn't read Mr. Wells' entire statement.
- 13 A. Could you repeat the question, please?
- 14 Q. Certainly.
- And in the broad sense, did he not say, quote,
- 16 "...we expect our counsel in selecting documents to
- 17 select documents they believe were within the broader
- 18 area of preparing to defend the litigation," close
- 19 quote?
- 20 A. I haven't yet found that -- that part of your
- 21 question.
- 22 Q. Take a look at line 21 through 23.
- 23 A. Thank you.
- 24 Q. Does it not say at line 21, "But we expect our
- 25 counsel in selecting documents to select documents

- 1 they believe were within the broader area of
- 2 preparing to defend the litigation?"
- 3 A. Yes, it does.
- 4 Q. Sir, and you mentioned that Mr. Clements said
- 5 the rest of the documents were cleared out; right?
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 7 A. I don't recall that.
- 8 Q. Well sir, isn't it true that the rest of the
- 9 documents, the ones that weren't selected, many, many
- 10 of them went to the shredders?
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form, no
- 12 time period, ambiguous.
- 13 Q. Well we're talking the mid-'80s.
- 14 A. It is my understanding that in the mid-'80s many
- 15 documents would have been destroyed, and that's part
- 16 of our -- our usual document-retention policy, to
- 17 dispose of documents which are not required for
- 18 legal, tax or business reasons, and I'm sure that was
- 19 the case in the 1980s.
- 20 Q. Were records kept of every document that was
- 21 destroyed?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, ambiguous,
- 23 timeframe.
- MS. WIVELL: I'll rephrase the question.
- 25 Q. Were records kept of every document that was

- 1 destroyed in this mid-'80s document destruction?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 3 ambiguous.
- 4 A. I'm not aware of a mid-'80s document
- 5 destruction that you're referring to. I am aware
- 6 that during the years Brown & Williamson has
- 7 destroyed documents that are not required to be kept
- 8 and it has kept documents that it -- it needs to
- 9 keep. Other than that, I don't think that it's our
- 10 normal practice to list every document that is
- 11 destroyed.
- 12 Q. So the answer to my question is in the mid-'80s,
- 13 after the document -- the lawyers had collected those
- 14 documents they thought would be helpful to defending
- 15 the litigation, there were not lists of documents
- 16 which were destroyed which were kept by Brown &
- 17 Williamson; right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 19 ambiguous, misleading.
- 20 A. I don't -- I don't understand your -- your
- 21 point. Documents were collected in these sweeps and
- 22 they were included in the database and retained by --
- 23 by outside counsel, copies of those documents;
- 24 originals were retained by Brown & Williamson, and if
- 25 they were -- if they were considered to be on legal

- 1 hold, they were retained. And it is my understanding
- 2 that in -- in the 1980s, documents relating to
- 3 smoking and health were retained by Brown &
- 4 Williamson.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Sir, move to strike as
- 6 non-responsive.
- 7 Q. My question is: In the mid-'80s, after the
- 8 document sweep where the lawyers went through and
- 9 collected the documents, documents were destroyed;
- 10 right?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 12 misleading, misstates the record.
- 13 A. My understanding is that throughout its history,
- 14 as a matter of not being buried in paper, people
- 15 destroy documents from time to time. Brown &
- 16 Williamson has always been careful not to destroy
- 17 documents that are on legal hold or are required for
- 18 legal, tax or business purposes.
- 19 MS. WIVELL: Sir, move to strike as
- 20 non-responsive.
- 21 Q. My question is --
- 22 Well let me go back. You said Ernie Clements
- 23 told you that once the documents were collected, that
- 24 there were other documents that were -- and I think
- 25 you used the words -- cleaned out; right?

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 2 misleading, misstates the record.
- 3 A. Let me clarify. I -- I believe you may be
- 4 referring to an exercise in 1994 rather than in the
- 5 mid-'80s where Brown & Williamson, as a matter of
- 6 endeavoring to review its record-retention practices
- 7 and to bring them into compliance with its policy and
- 8 to ensure that it had not discarded any documents
- 9 that are related to smoking and health and were
- 10 required for tax or business reasons, it went through
- 11 some exercise to review unnecessary files dating back
- 12 pre-1988 over -- some time in the late 1990s. It --
- 13 it undertook some very diligent procedures to ensure
- 14 that those documents were not necessary to keep
- 15 before they were destroyed. And -- and that -- that
- 16 process is called the pilot project basis, I believe.
- 17 Q. I'm sorry. Didn't you testify that Ernie
- 18 Clements told you that unbelievable hoops were jumped
- 19 through in connection with some of the activities
- 20 Brown & Williamson undertook to, and I quote, "clear
- 21 out unnecessary documents to make" --
- 22 Didn't you say that?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 24 ambiguous, timeframe.
- 25 A. My -- my testimony in that regard was in

- 1 relation to the period in the 1990s and not the 1980s
- 2 when Brown & Williamson undertook to try and resolve
- 3 excess documents held in storage, many dating to 1988
- 4 and before, and I was referring to those documents in
- 5 that -- that effort at that time.
- 6 Q. Okay. So then going back to my question, if --
- 7 if what you -- if what Ernie Clements told you about
- 8 clearing out the documents applies to the 1990s,
- 9 isn't it true that in the 1980s, in the mid-1980s,
- 10 Brown & Williamson also destroyed documents after the
- 11 lawyers had gone through and collected the ones they
- 12 thought would be helpful to them?
- 13 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 14 misleading, misstates the record.
- 15 A. I -- I cannot --
- I cannot point to every document that has ever
- 17 been destroyed in Brown & Williamson back in the
- 18 1980s. I can tell you that my understanding of the
- 19 procedure was that sweeps were undertaken and copies
- 20 were made, and those documents were retained by
- 21 outside counsel for the purposes of being ready for
- 22 Brown & Williamson's defense and for discovery
- 23 purposes. It is not my understanding that documents
- 24 which were swept by outside counsel and copied by
- 25 them were then destroyed by Brown & Williamson.

- 1 Q. Oh, I'm not suggesting that documents which
- 2 Brown & Williamson's counsel selected for purposes of
- 3 defending Brown & Williamson in the litigation were
- 4 destroyed. I'm suggesting that documents were
- 5 destroyed which counsel decided would not be helpful
- 6 to them in defending the litigation. Isn't that
- 7 true, sir?
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, misleading,
- 9 timeframe.
- 10 A. It is -- I -- I don't --
- 11 Brown & Williamson has always had a policy of
- 12 retaining documents which are on legal hold or
- 13 required for tax and business reasons. There may
- 14 have been circumstances in the years where, through
- 15 error or inadvertent actions by employees, some
- 16 documents may have been destroyed. I cannot confirm
- 17 that.
- 18 We have undertaken a due diligence review as
- 19 undertaken by the court order to try and identify
- 20 circumstances where the only copy of
- 21 smoking-and-health and advertising, marketing,
- 22 promotion documents have been destroyed. Some of
- 23 those circumstances have been included in this
- 24 interrogatory response.
- 25 Q. And we know for a fact that certain documents

- 1 were sent to Mr. Maddox, Brown & Williamson's
- 2 counsel, which have not been produced in this
- 3 litigation; correct?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 5 A. In respect of the temporary procedure in 1985 to
- 6 route B.A.T. research reports through Mr. Maddox, it
- 7 is my understanding that throughout that period all
- 8 but three reports have been received by Brown &
- 9 Williamson and found in Brown & Williamson files.
- 10 Q. So the answer to the question is yes, there have
- 11 been documents that were sent during this period from
- 12 B.A.T.-related companies to Mr. Maddox to be
- 13 forwarded on to Brown & Williamson which have not
- 14 been produced in this litigation; isn't that true,
- 15 sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 17 A. That is -- that is not my understanding. In
- 18 fact my understanding is that in respect of those
- 19 documents which have -- which were not found in Brown
- 20 & Williamson files, it's my understanding that some
- 21 of those reports have been made available by other
- 22 companies within the BAT Group to plaintiffs, but not
- 23 by Brown & Williamson.
- 24 Q. So the answer to the question is that
- 25 B.A.T.-related reports were sent to Mr. Maddox and

- 1 not produced by Brown & Williamson in this
- 2 litigation; correct?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 4 misleading.
- 5 A. No, it's not my understanding. It is my
- 6 understanding that several reports in this period,
- 7 which may have been routed through Mr. Maddox or may
- 8 not, have been found in Brown & Williamson files, and
- 9 if they were reviewed -- and my belief is that they
- 10 were reviewed on a document-by-document basis -- and
- 11 were found to be responsive, they would have been
- 12 produced. And --
- 13 Q. Sir, isn't it true that in the response to this
- 14 interrogatory, Brown & Williamson admits that not all
- 15 of the reports which Mr. Maddox received have been
- 16 produced by Brown & Williamson in this litigation?
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 18 misleading.
- 19 A. No. It is my understanding that Brown &
- 20 Williamson has indicated in the interrogatory
- 21 response the existence of three reports which, while
- 22 it cannot be confirmed that they were in fact routed
- 23 to Mr. Maddox or not, they may have been routed to
- 24 Mr. Maddox, and they have not been found in Brown &
- 25 Williamson's files.

- 1 Q. And they have not --
- 2 A. Other than that --
- 3 Q. -- been produced by Brown & Williamson in this
- 4 case; have they, sir?
- 5 A. May I complete my answer?
- 6 Other than that, other files which -- other
- 7 reports which may have been routed through Mr. Maddox
- 8 have been found. And furthermore, those three files,
- 9 I believe, have been made available to plaintiffs by
- 10 other companies in the BAT Group.
- 11 Q. Sir, my question doesn't regard other
- 12 companies. My question is: Isn't it true that Brown
- 13 & Williamson has not produced three of the reports
- 14 which were routed to Mr. Maddox in this litigation?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, asked
- 16 and answered, misleading, argumentative, and
- 17 harassing.
- 18 A. It is my understanding that your question only
- 19 asks me whether those reports have been produced in
- 20 this case, and my understanding is that they -- they
- 21 have been.
- 22 Could you repeat your -- the second part of your
- 23 question?
- 24 Q. I will repeat the question once again, sir.
- 25 Isn't it true that Brown & Williamson has not

- 1 produced three of the reports in this case which were
- 2 routed to Mr. Maddox?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, asked and
- 4 answered.
- 5 A. It's my understanding that Brown & Williamson
- 6 has listed in the interrogatory response three
- 7 reports which may or may not have been routed to Mr.
- 8 Maddox, but they have not been produced by Brown &
- 9 Williamson.
- 10 Q. And isn't it also true that Brown & Williamson
- 11 has not produced 10 reports from -- that it received
- 12 from BAT Co relating to research that was done from
- 13 1980 to 1993 which show a distribution to B&W?
- 14 A. Yes, it's my understanding that from more than
- 15 700 reports prepared by BAT Co which show
- 16 distribution to B&W, Brown & Williamson has found all
- 17 but 10 of those, and those 10 are listed in the
- 18 interrogatory response.
- 19 Q. Now isn't it true, sir, that a lot of the
- 20 reports, Brown & Williamson had to get back from
- 21 counsel to whom it had transferred those documents so
- 22 that they could be produced in this case?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 24 A. Will you please repeat the question.
- 25 Q. Certainly.

- 1 Isn't it true that many of the reports which
- 2 Brown & Williamson did produce, it had to get back
- 3 from counsel to whom it had transferred those
- 4 documents?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 6 A. I don't -- I don't know.
- 7 Q. You just don't know one way or the other; do
- 8 you, sir?
- 9 A. I don't know, I just said.
- 10 Q. But you do know that shredders were installed on
- 11 every floor of the Brown & Williamson Tower during
- 12 the mid-'80s; correct?
- 13 A. It's my understanding that Brown & Williamson
- 14 was concerned about security over documents and it
- 15 was concerned about the fact that confidential
- 16 documents could fall into the hands of third parties
- 17 and competitors, and it introduced the shredders to
- 18 avoid such unfortunate circumstances.
- 19 Q. How many floors are in the B&W Tower?
- 20 A. There are 26 floors.
- 21 Q. So there were --
- 22 There was a shredder on every floor and there
- 23 was also a bulk shredder in the basement to do large
- 24 numbers of documents; correct?
- 25 A. I believe that's correct.

- 1 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 84 was marked
- 2 for identification.)
- 3 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 4 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 5 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 84, this is a Brown & Williamson
- 6 document dated May 14th, 1985 from George Glassner
- 7 regarding destruction of confidential material;
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. No, I believe it's dated May the 10th, 1985.
- 10 But in other respects you're correct.
- 11 Q. All right. Well let me start again.
- 12 This is a document which is a Brown & Williamson
- 13 document dated May 10th, 1985 from George Glassner
- 14 regarding destruction of confidential material;
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. And it refers to the addition of a basement
- 18 shredder that's capable of shredding bulk amounts of
- 19 paper per hour; right?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. And in fact this document also says that if a
- 22 department wants to destroy sensitive documents in
- 23 even larger quantities, that arrangements had been
- 24 made for document shredding at the Kentucky Document
- 25 Shredding company; right?

- 1 A. The language --
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 3 A. The language used by Mr. Glassner has reference
- 4 to confidential data, but it -- other than that,
- 5 you're correct.
- 6 Q. Well sir, doesn't it say in the last sentence,
- 7 "...to obtain instructions on using the large
- 8 shredder or to set up procedures for your department
- 9 to destroy sensitive data..., " and then he references
- 10 the Kentucky Document Shredding company; doesn't he?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Sir, isn't it true that at approximately the
- 13 same time it was of such concern to B&W and the
- 14 B.A.T. companies about documents falling into the
- 15 hands of plaintiffs' attorneys that lawyers from the
- 16 two companies met to discuss the B&W situation?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 18 A. I recall you referencing this yesterday, but I
- 19 have no -- no knowledge about those -- those events.
- 20 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 85 was marked
- 21 for identification.)
- 22 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 23 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 24 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 85, it is a memo dated May 20th,
- 25 1985 to the communications group from R. Binns;

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. This is a BAT Co company document, Bates number
- 4 101427446; right?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And it refers to the facts -- I'm sorry.
- 7 The subject is "Circulation of R&D Information
- 8 from Southampton;" right?
- 9 A. Yes, it is.
- 10 Q. And it refers to the fact that Richard Baker
- 11 from Windsor House and Anne Johnson from Millbank
- 12 will meet in Southampton on the 30 -- 30th and 31st
- 13 of May for discussions; correct?
- 14 A. Yes, it does.
- 15 Q. And the discussions concerned the circulation of
- 16 documents from G.R. & D.C., particularly in relation
- 17 to the B&W situation; right?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. Now G.R. & D.C. is what, sir?
- 20 A. I believe it's the research department in
- 21 Southampton.
- 22 Q. And did you understand that the B&W situation
- 23 which is referred to here is the situation of concern
- 24 that documents would fall into the hands of
- 25 plaintiffs' lawyers which might be hurtful to B&W in

- 1 product-liability cases in the United States?
- 2 A. As I said before, I think my understanding about
- 3 the -- the circumstances in the mid-1980s was that
- 4 there was concern in Brown & Williamson and in BAT Co
- 5 that scientists in BAT Co, while writing reports on
- 6 their research, may have used loose language or
- 7 language that was likely to be misinterpreted
- 8 inappropriately, and steps were taken to educate, I
- 9 believe, scientists and to review their -- their
- 10 documents before they -- they were sent out in the
- 11 normal course of business, and -- and that it is my
- 12 understanding that these events, as -- as outlined in
- 13 this memo, may have been associated with -- with
- 14 that -- that sort of general environment.
- 15 Q. And just so we're clear here, the -- the quote,
- 16 unquote, loose language was the statement by various
- 17 BAT Co researchers that they believe cigarette
- 18 smoking caused cancer; isn't that true, sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 20 A. I don't know.
- 21 Q. Well isn't it true that by this time BAT Co
- 22 had -- I'm sorry, strike that.
- 23 Isn't it true that by this time various
- 24 scientists at BAT Co had come to the conclusion that
- 25 there were constituents in cigarette smoke which were

- 1 carcinogenic?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 3 outside the scope, meaning he is not designated to
- 4 discuss this topic.
- 5 A. I don't know what conclusions have been reached
- 6 by research scientists within the BAT Group over the
- 7 years. I'm not familiar with that -- that topic
- 8 area.
- 9 Q. Sir, at the bottom of Exhibit 85 there is a
- 10 handwritten note, and I have difficulty making it out
- 11 but I do read, "I've telephoned Carol Lincoln and I
- 12 told her she must send us a written request to
- 13 access," and then I can't read what's written there.
- 14 Can you read it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 16 A. I can read part of it.
- 17 Q. What -- what do you believe that note says at
- 18 the bottom?
- 19 A. Well I think you're correct, I -- I believe it
- 20 says that -- that "...she must send us a written
- 21 request to access the cyber she will do so ASAP."
- 22 Q. What is the cyber?
- 23 A. I don't know what the cyber is. It may be --
- I've not prepared myself to -- to respond to
- 25 that. It may be that it's reference to the computer

- 1 system that stored research at BAT Co at the time.
- 2 Q. And Carol --
- 3 A. I don't know that for certain.
- 4 Q. And Carol Lincoln is the R&D librarian at B&W;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. All right. Sir, isn't it also a fact that at or
- 8 about this time BAT Co and B&W personnel decided to
- 9 try and protect reports that B&W received from BAT Co
- 10 by sending copies of them to an American lawyer by
- 11 the name of Ernie Pepples?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 13 A. I don't believe that's the case. My
- 14 understanding is that the lawyer that reports were
- 15 sent to for a short period of time in 1985 was Mr.
- 16 Maddox.
- 17 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 86 was marked
- for identification.)
- 19 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 20 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 21 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 86, it is a BAT Co company
- 22 document marked "CONFIDENTIAL," Bates numbered
- 23 109879155, concerning "Notes of Meeting -- Notes on
- 24 Meeting held at GR&DC, July 17th, 1985; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.

- 1 I've not seen this document. This is not
- 2 designated. I want a moment to take a look at it.
- 3 MS. WIVELL: Have you had a chance to read
- 4 the document, Mr. Lowther?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: I object to the form. And
- 6 I would ask you, Ms. Wivell, to tell me what is the
- 7 basis for your claim that you can use this as
- 8 impeachment?
- 9 MS. WIVELL: Impeachment. He just said
- 10 that he did not believe -- well I --
- 11 He just said he did not believe that documents
- 12 were forwarded to Pepples.
- 13 Q. Sir, directing your attention to point four of
- 14 this document, does it not say on the specific matter
- 15 of circulation of reports to the United States,
- 16 "...copies to be sent to Mr. E. Pepples?"
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form. I
- 18 don't think it's an appropriate use of a
- 19 non-designated document. You've not been designated
- 20 to discuss this topic.
- You can respond.
- 22 A. This document references the fact that
- 23 scientific reports would be -- if they were to be
- 24 sent to the U.S.A., copies would be sent to Mr. --
- 25 Mr. Pepples, yes.

- 1 Q. Sir, also this document discusses the inability
- 2 to define what is contentious from non-contentious;
- 3 create -- correct?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object, object to the form.
- 5 A. I --
- 6 This document does say that documents could not
- 7 be usefully classified into contentious/non-
- 8 contentious on the basis of their categorization,
- 9 yes.
- 10 Q. And we had previously seen some documents which
- 11 directed BAT Co personnel to make a designation about
- 12 whether something contained contentious or
- 13 non-contentious material; correct?
- 14 A. And while I have not prepared myself to deal
- 15 with what was -- what BAT Co was thinking at this
- 16 time, it is my understanding that procedures were
- 17 undertaken for senior scientists to review written
- 18 reports prior to their release in -- in BAT Co, and
- 19 that some of the -- the documents you have provided
- 20 in this case indicate that that was the procedure.
- 21 That was a review by senior scientists which I take  $\,$
- 22 to have been an attempt to prevent loosely-written
- 23 documents which could be misconstrued or deliberately
- 24 misinterpreted by outsiders, and that what is said in
- 25 this particular document is that -- this is

- 1 referencing those procedures and it's simply
- 2 indicating that some reports which would be sent to
- 3 the U.S.A. would also go to Mr. Pepples, who is a --
- 4 an attorney -- who -- who was an attorney for Brown &
- 5 Williamson at the time.
- 6 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 7 non-responsive.
- 8 Q. Sir, my question was simply: We've seen
- 9 documents in this deposition already that referred to
- 10 the designation of documents as contentious and
- 11 non-contentious; correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- MS. WIVELL: I need to take a break.
- 14 THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 15 (Recess taken.)
- 16 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 17 Q. Sir, isn't it true that Brown & Williamson's
- 18 position in the mid-'80s was that it should be
- 19 isolated from any research which might be regarded in
- 20 a U.S. context as at all contentious?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 22 A. That's not my understanding of Brown &
- 23 Williamson's general position.
- 24 Q. And isn't it true that Brown & Williamson tried
- 25 to find alternative means by which it could obtain

- 1 information from BAT Co scientists without that
- 2 information knowingly being able to be traced to
- 3 Brown & Williamson?
- 4 A. If you're referring to a period of time in 1985
- 5 when some BAT Group research reports which would have
- 6 been routed to Brown & Williamson and were not in
- 7 fact sent directly to Brown & Williamson but were
- 8 sent to an attorney for the provision of legal
- 9 advice, then that -- that is in fact a circumstance
- 10 and facts that -- that have been included in our
- 11 interrogatory response.
- 12 Q. And -- and sir, isn't it true that reports were
- 13 sent to Mr. Maddox to try and ensure that no one can
- 14 prove that the information was known to Brown &
- 15 Williamson?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Ms. Wivell, you appear to
- 17 be asking questions based upon a BAT Co document that
- 18 we discussed earlier that is designated by a certain
- 19 number which we'll talk about in a moment. If your
- 20 questions are not so based on -- on the document, I
- 21 want to have the opportunity to have you ask those
- 22 questions. But if you're reading from or taking
- 23 provisions from a BAT Co document we discussed
- 24 earlier, we need to address that at this time.
- 25 Q. Well sir, my question is: Isn't it true that

- 1 reports were sent to Mr. Maddox to try and ensure
- 2 that no one could prove that the information was
- 3 known to Brown & Williamson?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 5 A. My -- my testimony today is -- is the knowledge
- 6 of the company relative to the facts contained in the
- 7 interrogatory response relative to document retention
- 8 and destruction, and I have not and cannot testify as
- 9 to what intentions and reservations people in general
- 10 had in -- in BAT Co at that time. I've not prepared
- 11 myself for that.
- 12 Q. No. I'm talking about what intentions Brown &
- 13 Williamson had, sir, and isn't it true that you
- 14 testified earlier that reports -- that Brown &
- 15 Williamson's name was taken off reports and those
- 16 reports were sent to Mr. Maddox in order that, I
- 17 think you claimed, he could provide legal advice to
- 18 some scientists in -- in England?
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 20 Q. Wasn't that your testimony before?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 22 A. It is my understanding that -- that that's
- 23 correct.
- 24 Q. And isn't it true, sir, that contrary to your
- 25 testimony, Brown & Williamson's position was that it

- 1 tried to isolate itself from research work which
- 2 could be regarded in a U.S. context as contentious or
- 3 perhaps dangerous in product-liability lawsuits?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 5 asked and answered.
- 6 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 7 Q. Certainly.
- 8 Isn't it true that, contrary to your testimony,
- 9 Brown & Williamson's position was that it tried to
- 10 isolate itself from research work which could be
- 11 regarded in a U.S. court as contentious or damaging?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 13 A. I don't believe so.
- 14 Q. Isn't it true -- I'm -- I'm going to try and
- 15 remedy counsel's objection.
- 16 Isn't it true that, contrary to your testimony,
- 17 Brown & Williamson's position was that it tried to
- 18 isolate itself from research work which could be
- 19 regarded as contentious?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 21 asked and answered.
- 22 A. It is my understanding that steps were taken in
- 23 19 -- in the 1980s to --
- 24 Q. (Coughing) Pardon me.
- 25 A. -- to review scientific reports before they were

- 1 issued, and that these reviews were undertaken by
- 2 scientists in -- in BAT Co, and that other steps were
- 3 taken to educate people in how they should
- 4 communicate the results of their scientific research
- 5 in ways that could not be inappropriately or
- 6 unfortunately interpreted by -- by other people. And
- 7 yes, facts like that have been disclosed in this
- 8 interrogatory response.
- 9 Q. Sir, isn't it true that it was Brown &
- 10 Williamson's position in the mid-'80s, after it had
- 11 been sued in several personal-injury cases involving
- 12 smoking-and-health-related issues, that any research
- 13 which plaintiffs could show it knew about relating to
- 14 smoking and health might lead to discoveries which
- 15 would be damaging in court?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 17 A. I'm sorry, that was a -- a long question. Could
- 18 you repeat it?
- 19 Q. Certainly.
- 20 Isn't it true that it was Brown & Williamson's
- 21 position in the mid-1980s, after it had been sued in
- 22 several personal-injury cases involving
- 23 smoking-and-health-related issues, that any research
- 24 which plaintiffs can show it knew about relating to
- 25 smoking and health might lead to discoveries which

- 1 could be damaging in court?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 3 A. I'm not sure I understand what you mean by Brown
- 4 & Williamson's position in that regard. I don't know
- 5 what Brown & Williamson's position was at that time.
- 6 Q. All right. Why don't you get out Exhibit 79.
- 7 MS. TURLAND: Ms. Wivell.
- 8 MS. WIVELL: Yes.
- 9 MS. TURLAND: Is that the document you
- 10 tried to use earlier this morning?
- MS. WIVELL: Yes.
- 12 MS. TURLAND: I'm going to object as BAT Co
- 13 and B.A.T. Industries' counsel to you using the
- 14 document at this time.
- MS. WIVELL: On what basis?
- MS. TURLAND: On the basis that I believe
- 17 this document is privileged and was authored by a
- 18 lawyer.
- 19 We did not request this document back, as far as
- 20 I can tell right now; however, I believe we did
- 21 request back an identical document to this which was
- 22 inadvertently produced to you. We requested that
- 23 back in a letter to Robins Kaplan dated January 20th,
- 24 1997. I'm having both that letter as well as the
- 25 letter from your office of 1/29 faxed to me here.

- 1 And I would ask that you -- you not use this document
- 2 right now, that you return it. And I would claim
- 3 privilege over it, and that Mr. Schneider direct his
- 4 witness not to answer any questions about this
- 5 document.
- 6 MS. WIVELL: I would like to know your
- 7 good-faith basis for your belief that this document
- 8 is authored by a lawyer.
- 9 MS. TURLAND: I've spoken to people at
- 10 Simpson Thacher and they believe it's written by a
- 11 lawyer. I have spoken with Diedre Fox, who believes
- 12 this document as well as the document requested back
- 13 in January was written by a lawyer.
- MS. WIVELL: All right. Just so we're
- 15 clear here, a claim of privilege was not asserted
- 16 with regard to the document Bates numbered 301122650
- 17 through 654 prior to this morning; correct?
- MS. TURLAND: As far as I know it was not.
- 19 MS. WIVELL: All right. And just so --
- 20 MS. TURLAND: But it was -- I'm sorry.
- 21 MS. WIVELL: Just so I understand here, you
- 22 have not spoken to any anyone at BAT Co who has given
- 23 you information which leads you to believe that this
- 24 was written by a lawyer.
- MS. TURLAND: I personally have not spoken

- 1 to anyone at BAT Co. I have had numerous calls and
- 2 conversations with people in our New York office. I
- 3 have asked them to do as much due diligence on this
- 4 document as they can at this time, and they have done
- 5 so. I've spoken with Diedre Fox, who has reviewed
- 6 similar documents. I've spoken with Alexis Cole of
- 7 our office, who has reviewed similar documents. And
- 8 they're speaking with other people at our office to
- 9 determine, and if necessary I can find out further
- 10 information from London.
- 11 MS. WIVELL: Well first of all, Diedre Fox
- 12 does not represent BAT Co; does she?
- MS. TURLAND: I understand that. No, she
- 14 does not.
- MS. WIVELL: And to your knowledge does she
- 16 have any personal information --
- 17 Maybe I should ask Diedre. Do you have any
- 18 personal information of your own knowledge,
- 19 first-hand, that this document was written by a
- 20 lawyer?
- 21 MS. FOX: This document was written --
- 22 written by a lawyer. That is the information that I
- 23 have.
- 24 MS. WIVELL: Well where did you -- I'm
- 25 sorry. That's a broad assertion without any factual

- 1 basis. I'm trying to understand the factual basis
- 2 for the assertion that you have made that this
- 3 document was written by a lawyer.
- 4 MS. FOX: Based on interviews that have
- 5 been conducted with witnesses, based on review of
- 6 this document and similar documents, this document
- 7 has been written by a lawyer.
- 8 MS. WIVELL: Based on review of -- of what
- 9 interviews?
- 10 MS. FOX: Based on review of interviews
- 11 that have been conducted of BAT Co personnel, this
- 12 document has been -- has -- was written by a lawyer.
- 13 It is similar to other documents that were written by
- 14 a lawyer for which a privilege claim was made, and it
- 15 is among those documents.
- MS. TURLAND: And may I just add something
- 17 here? We believe it was written by a lawyer, and
- 18 it's similar to another document which was returned
- 19 by your office after we made a privilege claim on
- 20 this document.
- 21 MS. WIVELL: "It is similar to," is that
- 22 what you said?
- 23 MS. TURLAND: I believe it's part of the
- 24 same grouping of documents or is related. That's why
- 25 we believe this was also written by a lawyer.

- 1 MS. WIVELL: And who was that document
- 2 written by?
- 3 MS. TURLAND: It was co-authored by Anne
- 4 Johnson and N. B. Cannar, both of whom are lawyers.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Now your -- the information
- 6 you just gave us about Anne Johnson and Cannar was
- 7 with regard to another document, not --
- 8 MS. TURLAND: With regard to another
- 9 document.
- 10 MS. WIVELL: -- not this document which
- 11 we've marked as Exhibit 79.
- 12 MS. TURLAND: Not this exact document, but
- 13 which would be possibly related to this document.
- MS. WIVELL: All right. Well let me --
- MS. TURLAND: That's the best knowledge I
- 16 have available to me at this time.
- 17 MS. WIVELL: All right. Well let me ask
- 18 you this: This particular document refers to a
- 19 meeting of the tobacco strategy review team;
- 20 correct?
- MS. TURLAND: Yes.
- 22 MS. WIVELL: And who is on the tobacco
- 23 strategy review team?
- 24 MS. TURLAND: At this point in time I can't
- 25 tell you each member. The tobacco strategy review

- 1 team had various members throughout its existence. I
- 2 can find out for you, possibly from New York today,
- 3 who was on it and at what period of time. I would
- 4 have to determine that. In 1986 it's possible that
- 5 there was a lawyer on the committee, I do not know
- 6 that for sure.
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Ms. Wivell, this is Mr.
- 8 Schneider. The procedures in the case management
- 9 order allow for the parties to identify documents
- 10 that are privileged that have been inadvertently
- 11 produced, at which time the counsel who has received
- 12 that information is to return the document, or
- 13 otherwise there is a challenge to call -- there is --
- 14 There are procedures outlined in the case
- 15 management order. At the present time BAT Co has
- 16 identified the document as privileged. It seems to
- 17 me that the document ought to be taken out of
- 18 consideration at the present time for further
- 19 proceeding under the case management order.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Well actually I am doing
- 21 exactly what the case management order says, I
- 22 believe, which is I am able to ask questions of the
- 23 witness -- or in this case counsel -- to establish
- 24 the issues regarding privilege, and I'm going to do
- 25 that.

- 1 As to returning the document, this document has
- 2 my work product on it. I am willing to put it in an
- 3 envelope and take appropriate measures with regard to
- 4 it. I will not return it to you because it has my
- 5 work product on it. However, I -- I do intend to ask
- 6 questions with regard to this document. And I would
- 7 like to know if there were any --
- 8 If this document was copied to any lawyers, it
- 9 does not so show on its face. I would like to know
- 10 who all received this document. It does not show
- 11 that on its face. I would like to know who is on the
- 12 tobacco strategy review team. Can -- can you give me
- 13 any of that information right now?
- MS. TURLAND: Not right now off the top of
- 15 my head.
- MS. FOX: I believe the author of this
- 17 document is Richard G. Baker, who is an attorney for
- 18 B.A.T. Industries. As to the particular membership
- 19 of the TSRT, I cannot tell you the particular
- 20 membership of the TSRT at this time or who the
- 21 particular people were.
- This is a document authored by a lawyer
- 23 providing legal advice.
- 24 MS. WIVELL: Well actually I don't think it
- 25 provides any legal advice. Could you point out where

- 1 it provides legal advice?
- 2 MS. TURLAND: It does. I can point out one
- 3 portion. If you look at Bates 301122653, the second
- 4 full paragraph which is under section b), "Smoking
- 5 and Health Research:
- 6 "On the general smoking and health issue
- 7 BATCo's" --
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: I think it's sufficient --
- 9 I think it's sufficient to identify, Ms. Turland,
- 10 just that it --
- 11 MS. TURLAND: No, Ms. Wivell --
- 12 MR. SCHNEIDER: -- contains advice. You
- 13 don't need to read it on the record.
- MS. WIVELL: Is there any other part of
- 15 this document that you believe contains legal
- 16 advice?
- MS. FOX: I believe this entire document is
- 18 written in the context of providing legal advice and
- 19 the entire document is privileged.
- 20 MS. TURLAND: In addition --
- 21 MS. FOX: Again, it is written by Richard
- 22 G. Baker, who is an attorney for B.A.T. Industries.
- 23 MS. TURLAND: In addition, I think there
- 24 are parts in here for --
- Yeah, I would agree.

- 1 MS. WIVELL: All right. Well we would take
- 2 the position that this is clearly business advice, if
- 3 at all, and that the facts about the positions of the
- 4 various companies are not privileged nor are they
- 5 work product in any way. And that this document,
- 6 while -- and I'm not conceding that it does contain
- 7 in subpart b) under "Smoking and Health Research" a
- 8 legal advice to a client -- that the other portions
- 9 of this document regarding the positions of Brown &
- 10 Williamson concerning its attempts to insulate itself
- 11 from smoking-and-health research because of
- 12 product-liability concerns are not legal advice but
- 13 are factual statements of Brown & Williamson's
- 14 position, directly contrary to the testimony of this
- 15 witness earlier that -- that things were routed to a
- 16 lawyer in order that he provide legal advice to some
- 17 scientists in -- in England, that it clearly is
- 18 contrary to his position in that it shows Brown &
- 19 Williamson's attempts to isolate itself.
- 20 MS. FOX: Ms. Wivell, this document is not
- 21 written by Brown & Williamson, it is written by
- 22 Richard G. Baker, who is counsel to B.A.T.
- 23 Industries. It is not a statement by Brown &
- 24 Williamson. In addition to which it is -- it is a
- 25 statement -- impression of a lawyer for B.A.T.

- 1 Industries, attorney impression of a lawyer for
- 2 B.A.T. Industries, and in that regard also contains
- 3 attorney mental impressions.
- 4 MS. WIVELL: I would point out that it
- 5 states "Brown & Williamson's position" beginning at
- 6 the top of page two of the document.
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: For the record, Ms. Wivell,
- 8 I disagree with the statements that you've made.
- 9 Among other things, this is not a document that you
- 10 designated for this deposition. Mr. Lowther has not
- 11 been designated to testify about this subject. He's
- 12 not been designated to testify about B&W's position.
- 13 He's been designated to talk about whether there are
- 14 documents in existence in B&W's files. That is the
- 15 issue that the interrogatory addresses. This -- this
- 16 deposition is not for the purpose of discussing all
- 17 of the discussions that have been had at the company
- 18 on various subjects over various times. Mr. Lowther
- 19 cannot speak for the company on those issues. He's
- 20 not been designated on those issues.
- 21 This document has been identified as an
- 22 inadvertently-produced privileged document. Under
- 23 the case management order the document should be
- 24 returned. If you don't want to return it, it should
- 25 be sealed, as you have indicated it will be, and we

- 1 should move on.
- MS. WIVELL: All right. For the record,
- 3 this document was used only because the witness gave
- 4 the testimony yesterday that R&D -- that Brown &
- 5 Williamson's name was taken off of R&D reports and
- 6 R&D reports were sent to an attorney by the name of
- 7 Maddox in order that he provide legal advice to
- 8 scientific members of BAT Co's group in Great
- 9 Britain, when indeed this fax -- this document
- 10 directory -- directly contradicts and impeaches that
- 11 testimony.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: We disagree with that
- 13 statement. And I would advise you that Mr. Lowther
- 14 has testified as to the documents being sent to Mr.
- 15 Maddox with respect -- for the purposes of seeking
- 16 legal advice. With respect to copying on the
- 17 documents, not copying on the documents, he is not
- 18 designated to discuss that topic. He does not speak
- 19 for the company on that topic. He has been
- 20 designated to speak about whether we can or cannot
- 21 locate documents. That is the sole topic upon which
- 22 he's been designated.
- 23 Your summary of his testimony is incorrect.
- 24 Your use of the document is improper.
- 25 MS. TURLAND: I would just like to say one

1	more thing. I believe this document is privileged,		
2	the entire document is privileged, not portions of		
3	it, and that's the claim that we asserted over the		
4	document that was produced and requested		
5	inadvertently produced to you and requested back on		
6	January 20th.		
7	MS. WIVELL: Just so we're clear here, that		
8	document, the document that is the subject of our		
9	discussion today, was not requested to be returned,		
10	and today is the first time that we have heard a		
11	privilege claim asserted with respect to it;		
12	correct?		
13	MS. TURLAND: That is correct.		
	I just want to state that for both documents		
14	I just want to state that for both documents		
14			
15	we're making the same claim because we believe the		
15 16	we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.		
15 16 17	we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.  Thank you for agreeing to seal the document.		
15 16 17 18	we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.  Thank you for agreeing to seal the document.  MS. WIVELL: I will seal the document.		
15 16 17 18	we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.  Thank you for agreeing to seal the document.  MS. WIVELL: I will seal the document.  Why don't we take a lunch break.		
15 16 17 18 19 20	we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.  Thank you for agreeing to seal the document.  MS. WIVELL: I will seal the document.  Why don't we take a lunch break.  THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.		
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	<pre>we're making the same claim because we believe the documents are identical.  Thank you for agreeing to seal the document.  MS. WIVELL: I will seal the document.  Why don't we take a lunch break.  THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.  (Luncheon recess taken at 12:09 o'clock)</pre>		

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1	AFTERNOON	SESSIO
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- 2 (Deposition reconvened at 1:37 o'clock
- 3 p.m.)
- 4 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 5 Q. Sir, isn't it true that in interrogatory answers
- 6 that are Exhibit 26 to this deposition, Brown &
- 7 Williamson claimed that it did not have a policy to
- 8 avoid receiving reports from BAT Co companies for the
- 9 purpose of -- of evading discovery?
- 10 A. I don't believe that language such as you used
- 11 is incorporated in -- into this interrogatory
- 12 response.
- 13 Q. So if it's there, you just are unaware of it; is
- 14 that correct?
- 15 A. I believe I'm familiar with the interrogatory
- 16 response, and I'm not aware of any language such as
- 17 you have just used included within it.
- 18 Q. All right. Let me ask you this, sir: Isn't it
- 19 true that Brown & Williamson lawyers and members of
- 20 the R&D department during the period mid-1985 and on
- 21 attempted to limit access to R&D reports obtained
- 22 from B.A.T. companies by claiming that they were
- 23 privileged?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 25 the scope.

#### STIREWALT & ASSOCIATES

- 1 Mr. Lowther is not designated to discuss that
- 2 topic. That's not a topic of the interrogatory
- 3 response. He can give you any personal knowledge, if
- 4 he has any.
- 5 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 6 Q. Certainly, sir.
- 7 Isn't it true that Brown & Williamson lawyers
- 8 and members of the R&D department during the period
- 9 beginning approximately mid-1985 and on attempted to
- 10 limit access to R&D reports obtained from B.A.T.
- 11 companies by claiming they were privileged?
- 12 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form, same
- 13 objection.
- 14 A. I don't know about that.
- 15 Q. All right, sir. (Coughing) Pardon me.
- 16 Isn't it true that a discussion took place about
- 17 a possible system that would -- could be developed
- 18 which would exempt reports that were received from
- 19 BAT Co by claiming them to be privileged?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 21 the scope.
- 22 Mr. Lowther has not been designated to discuss
- 23 this topic.
- 24 A. I don't know about that.
- 25 Q. Well sir, isn't it true that at page 16 of

- 1 Exhibit 26, it says, "The foregoing reports do not
- 2 cover any particular topic or time frame, nor reflect
- 3 any policy to avoid receiving these reports for the
- 4 purpose of evading discovery?"
- 5 A. It is my understanding --
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: Page 16 -- Exhibit 26, page
- 7 16.
- 8 Q. Could you turn to page 16 and see if you find
- 9 that claim made in the interrogatory answers.
- 10 A. It does -- it does indeed say that.
- 11 Q. All right. Now let me ask you, then: Isn't it
- 12 true that Brown & Williamson, through its attorney
- 13 Kendrick Wells, spoke with Mr. Esterle of the R&D
- 14 department and memorialized through a document a
- 15 system where it was possible -- or it was thought to
- 16 be possible that R&D documents could be sent to the
- 17 legal department and therefore claimed privileged?
- 18 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 19 the scope. Further object that you seem to be
- 20 relying on a stolen, privileged document. The
- 21 question is improper. Mr. Lowther has no knowledge
- 22 of this subject. He's not designated to speak on
- 23 this topic.
- MS. WIVELL: Well for the record, Mr.
- 25 Schneider, I'm referring to my notes, just so the

- 1 record is clear.
- 2 Do you have my question in mind, sir?
- 3 THE WITNESS: I do not.
- 4 Q. Isn't it true that Brown & Williamson, through
- 5 its attorney Kendrick Wells, spoke with Mr. Esterle
- 6 of the R&D department and created a document where
- 7 they memorialized their conversations and referred to
- 8 setting up a possible system where the legal
- 9 department would get R&D documents to exempt those
- 10 reports by claiming them privileged?
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection, same objection.
- 12 A. It is --
- 13 It's my understanding that the facts of -- of
- 14 the matter are that for the period from 1980 to 1993,
- 15 more -- of more than 700 reports issued by B.A.T.
- 16 research companies -- BAT Co, distributed to B&W,
- 17 Brown & Williamson has found all but 10 in its
- 18 files. It's my understanding that all documents of
- 19 this nature were reviewed on a document-by-document
- 20 basis, and it is my understanding if they were
- 21 considered responsive they would have been produced
- 22 in this case, and not privileged. If they were
- 23 claimed to be privileged, then they will be listed on
- 24 a log and plaintiffs will -- will be aware of that.
- MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as

- 1 non-responsive.
- 2 Q. Sir, my question -- and maybe you just don't
- 3 know the answer to this question, and if so, you can
- 4 tell me. But my question is: Isn't it true that
- 5 Brown & Williamson's lawyer Kendrick Wells spoke with
- 6 Mr. Esterle of the R&D department about creating a
- 7 system where documents would be exempt from being
- 8 produced in product-liability litigation, documents
- 9 that were received from BAT Co, because they would be
- 10 sent in such a way that a privilege claim could be
- 11 made for them?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form. Again,
- 13 this question is outside the scope. Mr. Lowther has
- 14 no knowledge on this subject. Mr. Lowther is not
- 15 designated to speak on this subject. The subject is
- 16 not covered by the interrogatory response.
- 17 MS. WIVELL: Well Mr. Schneider, it is
- 18 covered by the interrogatory response. A bold-face
- 19 assertion was made in those interrogatories that
- 20 there was no such pattern, and I have the right to
- 21 cross-examine Brown & Williamson on this subject
- 22 which is covered in the interrogatory answers. And I
- 23 don't appreciate your speaking objections to the
- 24 contrary which are coaching this witness.
- 25 MR. SCHNEIDER: I object to your

- 1 statement. I don't agree with it.
- 2 Object to the form and repeat my objection,
- 3 incorporate it herein.
- 4 Q. Let me repeat my question, sir. Isn't it true
- 5 that Brown & Williamson's attorney, Kendrick Wells,
- 6 spoke with Mr. Esterle of the R&D department about
- 7 creating a system where documents would be sent from
- 8 BAT Co so that it could be claimed that these
- 9 documents were privileged?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form. Same
- 11 objection.
- 12 A. I don't know about that.
- 13 Q. So that was something that was not shared with
- 14 you by Mr. Wells during your deposition prep for your
- 15 deposition here today; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 17 A. My preparation for the deposition today has been
- 18 to understand the items included in this
- 19 interrogatory response and did not include
- 20 understanding all facts of people interviewed during
- 21 the due diligence review, and I'm not aware of -- of
- 22 any reference to items that you have just referenced.
- 23 Q. Well sir, the interrogatory response makes a
- 24 flat assertion that there was no policy to avoid
- 25 receiving reports for the purpose of evading

- 1 discovery. Did you do anything to try and determine
- 2 whether or not that statement was accurate?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 4 misleading.
- 5 A. It is -- it is my testimony that that statement
- 6 is consistent with my understanding of Brown &
- 7 Williamson's attempt over the years to retain
- 8 documents. It's retained huge numbers of documents.
- 9 It has undertaken exhaustive efforts during the
- 10 course of reviewing what documents it should retain
- 11 and what documents it may not retain to make sure
- 12 that it does not dispose of documents that are
- 13 required for legal purposes. To the best of my
- 14 knowledge it has always made good efforts to retain
- 15 smoking-and-health documents, and it has produced
- 16 large numbers of them in this case. I have no
- 17 evidence that suggests that at any time Brown &
- 18 Williamson has a policy to do anything to evade
- 19 discovery.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Move to strike as
- 21 non-responsive.
- 22 Q. Sir, my question is simply this: There is an
- 23 assertion here that there was not a policy to avoid
- 24 receiving reports for the purpose of evading
- 25 discovery. It's part of the interrogatory answer

- 1 that you're here to talk about. And I want to know:
- 2 Did you personally do anything to try and determine
- 3 whether or not that statement was accurate?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form,
- 5 misleading.
- 6 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 7 Q. Certainly.
- 8 There is an assertion here that there was not a
- 9 policy to avoid receiving reports for the purpose of
- 10 evading discovery. It's part of the interrogatory
- 11 answer that you have been designated to talk about.
- 12 And I want to know: Did you do anything to try and
- 13 determine whether or not that statement was
- 14 accurate?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, same
- 16 objection as earlier.
- 17 A. I did not reperform the due diligence review
- 18 that was undertaken by outside counsel. And the
- 19 statement that you are referencing here is in the
- 20 context of reporting on large numbers of reports that
- 21 were issued by BAT Co and are in Brown & Williamson's
- 22 files. We have evidence that indicates that of more
- 23 than 700 reports that were issued, we have all but
- 24 10. I think that indicates that by and large Brown &
- 25 Williamson did not undertake wholesale attempts not

- 1 to receive documents. And even if it had done so,
- 2 there are reasons why Brown & Williamson would not
- 3 receive reports which are not relevant, which don't
- 4 have facts which are of use to Brown & Williamson or
- 5 really are of no business -- or potentially
- 6 misinterpretable. So I do not believe that there has
- 7 ever been a policy to avoid receiving reports for the
- 8 purpose of evading discovery.
- 9 MS. WIVELL: Sir, move to strike as
- 10 non-responsive.
- 11 Q. My question was simply this: There is a
- 12 statement here that there was no policy to avoid
- 13 receiving reports for the purpose of evading
- 14 discovery, and the simple fact is you did nothing to
- 15 determine the accuracy of that yourself in preparing
- 16 for that deposition -- in this deposition; isn't that
- 17 true?
- 18 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 19 A. It's my understanding that I have -- I have
- 20 reviewed and ascertained facts that are included in
- 21 this interrogatory response, and those facts are
- 22 consistent with the statement that Brown & Williamson
- 23 does not have a policy to avoid receiving reports for
- 24 the purpose of evading discovery.
- 25 Q. Sir, isn't it a fact that if Brown & Williamson

- 1 had that policy, you just didn't know it one way or
- 2 the other; did you?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form, outside
- 4 the scope. Not designated to discuss this topic.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Oh, he is designated to
- 6 discuss this topic, sir. It is a quote from the
- 7 dep -- or from the interrogatory answers. And it's
- 8 just really improper for you to suggest that he's --
- 9 it's outside the scope.
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: It is not --
- 11 Your question is not a quote from the
- 12 interrogatory response. The sentence refers to
- 13 specific lists of reports and says that those reports
- 14 do not reflect any policy. This gentleman is not
- 15 designated to discuss what the policies of B&W were
- 16 or were not, he's designated to answer questions
- 17 concerning whether or not there are instances
- 18 reported in this interrogatory response, and that is
- 19 what he's here to testify about.
- 20 MS. WIVELL: Sir, your interpretation of
- 21 what this deposition is or not -- is not about is
- 22 inaccurate. This deposition was noted to discuss the
- 23 interrogatory answers which were filed February 11th,
- 24 1997.
- 25 Q. I am quoting and I will quote again from the

- 1 interrogatory answer. Sir, it says here -- refers to
- 2 "The foregoing reports do not cover any particular
- 3 topic or time frame, nor reflect any policy to avoid
- 4 receiving these reports for the purpose of evading
- 5 discovery." Have I read that correctly, sir?
- 6 A. Yes, you have.
- 7 Q. And you did nothing personally in preparing for
- 8 this deposition to determine the accuracy or
- 9 inaccuracy of that particular claim; did you, sir?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 11 A. I did not personally undertake the review of
- 12 these reports, that's correct.
- 13 Q. And you personally didn't undertake the review
- 14 of the 77 interviews; did you, sir?
- 15 A. No, I did not.
- 16 Q. And you personally did not review the memo
- 17 Kendrick Wells wrote about his discussions with Mr.
- 18 Esterle about trying to create a system where reports
- 19 received from BAT Co could be claimed as privileged;
- 20 did you, sir?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 22 A. I don't know about that document.
- 23 Q. And isn't it true that Mr. Wells thought that
- 24 continued law-department control of BAT Co reports
- 25 was essential in order to keep them out of the hands

- 1 of plaintiffs' lawyers?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form. And to
- 3 the extent that you are quoting from a privileged,
- 4 stolen document, I believe the question is improper.
- 5 We preserve our privilege objection with respect to
- 6 the use of that document or any use or quotation from
- 7 it. Mr. Lowther is not designated to discuss the
- 8 topic.
- 9 A. I don't know about any thoughts that Mr. Wells
- 10 may have had over the years.
- 11 Q. Well do you know that Mr. Wells suggested that
- 12 Ernie Pepples look at reports that were received from
- 13 BAT Co and divide them into a sensitive group and
- 14 a -- and a group that could be sent to the library?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Same objection.
- 16 A. I don't know about that.
- 17 Q. Do you know if a suggestion by Mr. Wells of
- 18 making Dr. Sanford an agent of the law department so
- 19 that the documents he received from BAT Co could be
- 20 claimed to be privileged?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Same objection.
- 22 A. I don't know about that.
- 23 Q. Sir, you said that Brown & Williamson has had a
- 24 policy of complying with discovery requests and
- 25 producing documents. I'd like to refer to one

- 1 particular document that was mentioned in Mr.
- 2 Kendrick Wells' deposition in Butler, and that is a
- 3 document concerning a meeting that occurred in
- 4 Vancouver, British Columbia. Are you familiar with
- 5 that testimony, sir?
- 6 A. No, I'm not.
- 7 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 87 was marked
- 8 for identification.)
- 9 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 10 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 11 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 87, this is a portion of Mr.
- 12 Kendrick Wells' deposition taken in the Butler case.
- MS. WIVELL: Why don't we go off the record
- 14 while you review it.
- THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 16 (Momentary discussion off the record.)
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: I don't want by my silence
- 18 in going off the record to waive the letter that we
- 19 gave you this morning, which as a general rule we
- 20 don't think we should go off the record. But as I
- 21 said yesterday, I don't think it got to be that big
- 22 an issue. It hasn't gotten to be that big an issue
- 23 today.
- 24 And with having said that, I think we can go off
- 25 the record and read the document.

- 1 THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 2 (Discussion off the record.)
- 3 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 4 Q. Sir, while we were off the record, you had the
- 5 opportunity to read Exhibit 87; correct?
- 6 A. Yes, I did.
- 7 Q. And it refers to some testimony that Mr. Wells
- 8 gave concerning minutes of a meeting that took place
- 9 in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1989; right?
- 10 A. I believe that's correct.
- 11 Q. And according to Mr. Wells' testimony, Jeff
- 12 Wigand sent a copy after he had made some notes on
- 13 it; right?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And he --
- 16 And Mr. Wigand sent Mr. Wells the copy with the
- 17 notes on it; right?
- 18 A. I believe that's right.
- 19 Q. Sir, under Brown & Williamson's
- 20 document-retention policy, if someone makes notes on
- 21 a document, that is considered a new document;
- 22 correct?
- 23 A. I believe that's correct.
- 24 Q. Can you explain why the document with the
- 25 handwritten notes on it that is referred to in this

- 1 testimony has not been produced to the plaintiffs in
- 2 this case?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 4 A. I've not been prepared to -- to review that --
- 5 that issue. I can't comment on a
- 6 document-by-document basis. It's my understanding
- 7 that our interrogatory response deals with the
- 8 matters of documents which may have been destroyed,
- 9 only copy, related to smoking and health,
- 10 advertising, marketing, promotion. I don't know what
- 11 the content of these minutes in the meeting in
- 12 Vancouver is, and I can't comment on that, that
- 13 issue.
- 14 Q. Well let me show you the copy that does not
- 15 contain Jeff Wigand's handwritten notes.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 17 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 88 was marked
- for identification.)
- 19 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 20 Q. Sir, showing you what's been marked as
- 21 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 88, why don't you look through it
- 22 and tell me if there are any handwritten notes on it.
- 23 A. I don't believe there are.
- 24 Q. And for the record, Exhibit 88 is a document
- 25 from Brown & Williamson's files entitled "Research

- 1 Policy Group Meeting, 18-22 September 1989, Pan
- 2 Pacific Hotel, Vancouver, Canada; correct?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And it's Bates numbered 682810250 through 261;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Now if you look down to approximately the middle
- 8 of the first page, it says here, "Delegates agreed
- 9 that the aims of the meeting would be as follows:
- "To agree priorities for external S&H research."
- 11 Did I read that correctly?
- 12 A. Yes, you did.
- 13 Q. You understand S&H research to mean
- 14 smoking-and-health research; correct?
- 15 A. Yes, I do.
- 16 Q. Then if you look at the second page, it
- 17 concerns --
- 18 There is a heading entitled "Smoking and
- 19 Health; correct?
- 20 A. Yes, there is.
- 21 Q. Goes on to talk about "RET introduced the draft
- 22 discussion document 'Smoking and Health: Future
- 23 Strategems for Research; '" correct?
- 24 A. "Future Strategies for Research," yes.
- 25 Q. I'm sorry. My copy is a little blurred.

- 1 Then it goes on to say, "This was a critical
- 2 review of the main smoking and health work areas;"
- 3 right?
- 4 A. Yes, it does.
- 5 Q. Now sir, isn't it a fact that Jeffery Wigand
- 6 thought these doc -- these minutes were inaccurate
- 7 and corrected and made statements -- I'm sorry, let
- 8 me begin again.
- 9 Isn't it true that Jeffery Wigand thought that
- 10 the minutes which are Exhibit 88 were incorrect?
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 12 A. I don't know that. I cannot comment on Dr.
- 13 Wigand's impressions of this -- of these minutes.
- 14 Q. But we do know from Kendrick Wells' testimony
- 15 that's included in Exhibit 87 that there was a
- 16 marked-up copy of these made after the meeting was
- 17 held; right?
- 18 A. It's my understanding that Mr. Wells' testimony
- 19 was that he thought that Mr. Wigand may have made
- 20 some notes on a copy of them.
- 21 Q. And then it goes on to say that there -- on the
- 22 second page of Exhibit 87, quote, "There is a set
- 23 that I know of in the law department files; correct?
- 24 A. That's what it says, yes.
- 25 Q. All right. So it would be fair to assume that

- 1 these marked-up notes would have been produced in the
- 2 Minnesota litigation; wouldn't it, sir?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 4 A. It's my understanding that if this document had
- 5 been in Brown & Williamson's files and had been
- 6 reviewed, it probably would have been produced.
- 7 Q. Can you explain to me why it wasn't?
- 8 A. I can't comment on a document-by-document basis,
- 9 no.
- 10 Q. Well, would it be fair to say that if Brown &
- 11 Williamson has the document, if it still exists, that
- 12 it should have been produced to plaintiffs?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 14 A. It's my understanding that a copy of the
- 15 document has been produced to -- to plaintiffs.
- 16 Q. It's your understanding that a copy of the
- 17 document with Jeffery Wigand's handwritten comments
- 18 has been produced to the plaintiffs in this
- 19 litigation?
- 20 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 21 A. No, I do not know that. I understand that the
- 22 copy that you've produced as Exhibit 88 was produced
- 23 to plaintiffs.
- 24 Q. Yes. But that does not include Jeffery Wigand's
- 25 handwritten comments; does it, sir?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. And I ask again: Why have Jeffery Wigand's
- 3 handwritten notes or handwritten corrections to the
- 4 draft not been produced to plaintiffs?
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 6 A. It's my understanding that draft documents from
- 7 time to time are not retained, and that's just a
- 8 matter of -- of -- of practice in -- in business from
- 9 time to time, and it may well be that that is what
- 10 happened to these back in 1989. I don't know the
- 11 circumstances surrounding this document.
- 12 Q. Sir, isn't it true that at the time that Exhibit
- 13 88 was drafted, Brown & Williamson had in place a
- 14 policy that said that any handwritten comments or
- 15 additions to a document were in essence a new
- 16 document?
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 18 A. It is my understanding that if a document is
- 19 received and notes are written on the side, then that
- 20 is a document. If it is a document that is required
- 21 to be retained, then that would normally be retained.
- 22 Q. And sir, you would agree that if Jeffery Wigand
- 23 made handwritten notes on the document which is
- 24 Exhibit 88, it would be a new document which would
- 25 have been, at the time it was created, subject to a

- 1 legal hold, as you have put.
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 3 A. That's not necessarily my understanding. My
- 4 understanding is that documents may be prepared in
- 5 draft and reviewed during the course of -- of normal
- 6 business, and that documents prepared like that which
- 7 are not yet final where there's -- no agreement has
- 8 yet been reached that such documents fairly present
- 9 the position or the business of the company, and that
- 10 such documents like that, draft documents, may not
- 11 necessarily be retained.
- 12 I don't know the circumstances in connection
- 13 with this particular document. I don't know when
- 14 the -- the -- the notes were prepared and I don't
- 15 have any knowledge about the circumstances
- 16 surrounding this.
- 17 Q. All right. But we do know that at the time Mr.
- 18 Wells was deposed in the Butler case last year, there
- 19 was a set of the notes in the law department's files;
- 20 correct?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 22 A. Well my understanding is that plaintiffs have a
- 23 copy of -- of the minutes of this meeting, if that's
- 24 what you're referring to, yes.
- 25 Q. No. I'm talking to the notes that Jeffery

- 1 Wigand marked up that Mr. Wells said were in the law
- 2 department files. Those existed as of last year;
- 3 didn't they, sir?
- 4 A. It's not my --
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object --
- 6 A. -- understanding that the notes that Mr. Wells
- 7 says there's a set in the law department files, I
- 8 don't know whether those particular ones in the law
- 9 department files have Mr. -- Dr. Wigand's notes or
- 10 not.
- 11 Q. Well --
- 12 A. I'm not aware of that. I don't think that Mr.
- 13 Wells' testimony is clear on that point.
- 14 Q. Well let me ask you this, sir: Are you telling
- 15 me that Jeff Wigand's notes were destroyed?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 17 A. I do not know that.
- 18 Q. They certainly aren't referred to as a destroyed
- 19 document in the interrogatory answers which have been
- 20 marked as Exhibit 26; right?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. You would agree that if they exist, they should
- 23 be produced to plaintiffs; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 25 A. It -- it was my testimony that if these

- 1 documents existed, then they would have been
- 2 produced. I don't know whether they are in Brown &
- 3 Williamson's files. We do not have any information
- 4 that they're not in Brown & Williamson's files.
- 5 Q. Well you said they would have been produced if
- 6 they existed, so from that may we infer that they no
- 7 longer exist?
- 8 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 9 A. I have no knowledge on, you know, what -- what
- 10 the status of these -- these notes are.
- 11 Q. So you just don't have any information on the
- 12 subject one way or the other; do you?
- 13 A. I have no knowledge on these specific
- 14 circumstances here, no.
- 15 Q. You don't know if they're among the documents
- 16 that are listed on the five pages of notes from -- of
- 17 files destroyed from Mr. Wigand's files; do you, sir?
- 18 A. I don't know that at this time.
- 19 Q. Do you have that document here today, the five
- 20 pages of files destroyed from Mr. Wigand's files?
- 21 A. I do not.
- 22 Q. Did you ask about it?
- 23 A. I believe inquiries are under way in that
- 24 regard.
- 25 Q. Ah. And inquiries are not finished; is that

- 1 what your testimony is?
- 2 A. That's my belief, yes.
- 3 Q. Did you discover that the document was indeed
- 4 pulled out of the Minnesota depository the day after
- 5 the interrogatories that are the subject of this
- 6 deposition was filed?
- 7 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 8 And Ms. Wivell, to avoid confusion, Mr. Lowther
- 9 does not have the document. I have obtained the
- 10 document. We are making some additional inquiries
- 11 and hope to have the inquiries resolved soon so that
- 12 we can either give you the document today or tomorrow
- 13 once we have resolved the issue that -- that it can
- 14 be produced in the case.
- MS. WIVELL: Well Mr. Lowther -- or Mr.
- 16 Schneider, I need it now. Do you have it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Yes, I have the document.
- MS. WIVELL: May I see it?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Well you need to wait until
- 20 I complete my inquiries with respect to it.
- 21 MS. WIVELL: I'm afraid I can't do that. I
- 22 would like to see the document now. Is there a
- 23 particular objection to my having the document?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Well let me go -- go back
- 25 and correct a few things. First, you said yesterday

- 1 that you thought this document had been pulled out of
- 2 the depository. That's incorrect. The document has
- 3 not been placed into the depository at any time. It
- 4 is a document that was listed on the 4B index that
- 5 came along with box 1295. The people at the
- 6 depository looked into the box, noticed that there
- 7 were three documents missing, and that's what --
- 8 those were the ones that appeared on your notation
- 9 sheet. When they asked for those documents to be --
- 10 to see why those documents were missing, it was
- 11 established at that time that the documents were --
- 12 had been flagged as potentially privileged. We have
- 13 now --
- 14 We have obtained the document. We are trying to
- 15 do a couple of additional inquiries to end that
- 16 inquiry and determine that we can produce the
- 17 document.
- MS. WIVELL: Well sir, I need to know that
- 19 now. I would like to know whether the document is
- 20 privileged or it's not privileged.
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Well let -- let me try to
- 22 make another call to see if we can't resolve that
- 23 issue in the next five minutes.
- MS. WIVELL: All right. Why don't we go
- 25 off the record so you can do that.

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1	THE REPOR	RTER: Off	the	record,	please.
2	(Recess t	aken.)			

- 4 for identification.)
- 5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Yes. With respect to
- 6 Plaintiffs' Exhibit 89 which is marked, document
- 7 number 68274179 through 83, we have produced this
- 8 document here today to plaintiffs. It does not have
- 9 the "PROTECTED BY THE MINNESOTA TOBACCO LITIGATION
- 10 PROTECTIVE ORDER" on it, but it should be deemed to
- 11 be a protected document. We will send a copy to the
- 12 depository.
- 13 Yesterday Ms. Wivell presented a notation sheet
- 14 which indicated that there was a reference to this
- 15 document on the index for box 1295. This document
- 16 was not in box 1295. When we received the note of
- 17 the missing pages we went back to the company; this
- 18 document had been flagged for privilege review. And
- 19 we have, as you know, a process going on of producing
- 20 privilege logs, and things that we identified that
- 21 have been flagged that we determine not to be
- 22 privileged are part of our de-privileged group. This
- 23 would be going into one of those boxes. So we
- 24 produce it here today as a depository document.
- 25 BY MS. WIVELL:

- 1 Q. Sir, do you have Exhibit 89 before you?
- 2 A. I do.
- 3 Q. Do you understand it is the document that we
- 4 have been referring to here that is entitled "Files
- 5 from JS Wigand destroyed?"
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 THE REPORTER: Just a moment. Off the
- 8 record, please.
- 9 (Discussion off the record.)
- 10 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 11 Q. Sir, and amongst those files are listed all of
- 12 Jeffery Wigand's personal files; correct?
- 13 A. Well it's my understanding that this is a list
- 14 of files that were obtained from Dr. Wigand, that's
- 15 correct.
- 16 Q. And amongst those files which were destroyed
- 17 were all of his personal files; correct?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 19 A. I -- I don't know that I can respond as to
- 20 whether it's a complete list of every file that Mr.
- 21 Wigand ever had. It's evidently a list of some files
- 22 that Mr. Wigand at one time had which had been
- 23 destroyed.
- 24 Q. (Coughing) Pardon me.
- 25 And among those, the second item is, quote, "All

- 1 personal files;" correct?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection. Marti, I think
- 3 that says "personnel."
- 4 MS. WIVELL: I'm sorry. Let me take that
- 5 back.
- 6 Q. Have you had an opportunity to check to see
- 7 whether all of these documents that are referred to
- 8 on this exhibit have been produced to plaintiffs?
- 9 A. It's my understanding that this is a listing of
- 10 documents which have been destroyed, if they have
- 11 been destroyed. On the second page and other pages
- 12 there are indications of files which have been passed
- 13 on to other people in Brown & Williamson. I've not
- 14 prepared myself to indicate which of these have been
- 15 produced and which have not been, but it is my
- 16 understanding that files of this nature may have been
- 17 responsive in this case and probably would have been
- 18 produced if they were within Brown & Williamson's
- 19 files.
- 20 Q. Sir, to correct something you said, the files
- 21 passed on to other Brown & Williamson employees begin
- 22 at page three of the document; correct?
- 23 A. I believe that's correct.
- 24 Q. And there's no way for us to tell whether -- I'm
- 25 sorry. Let me begin again.

- 1 There's no way for us to tell the contents of
- 2 the various files that were destroyed that are listed
- 3 on the first two pages of the document; right?
- 4 A. Well it's my understanding that there's a
- 5 general description about what those files are.
- 6 Q. All right. But apart from that there's no way
- 7 for us to tell what was actually in the files which
- 8 were destroyed which are listed on the first two
- 9 pages of this document; right?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 11 A. I don't believe we have detailed knowledge of
- 12 the exact items, no.
- 13 Q. Who typed this list?
- 14 A. I don't know who typed this list.
- 15 Q. All right. Will you find that out and report
- 16 back to me?
- 17 A. Yes, I will.
- 18 Q. Thank you.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Ms. Wivell, to streamline,
- 20 I -- my current knowledge is it was prepared by
- 21 Martha Thomas.
- 22 Q. Do you adopt what your counsel just said, that
- 23 this list was prepared by Martha Thomas?
- 24 A. I accept that.
- 25 Q. Sir, do you have anything more to report back

- 1 about any of the things that you told us yesterday
- 2 you didn't know the answer to?
- 3 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 4 A. I can tell you in con -- connection with this
- 5 list, my understanding is that inquiries were made as
- 6 part of this due diligence review to establish
- 7 whether the only document relating to smoking and
- 8 health or advertising, marketing, promotion may have
- 9 been destroyed. Inquiry was made of Martha Thomas in
- 10 this regard, and it is my understanding that Martha
- 11 Thomas, who had been a -- an employee within R&D for
- 12 some time and was well aware of Brown & Williamson's
- 13 retention policy, her understanding of -- of the
- 14 circumstances surrounding this is that she went
- 15 through these files and the files that were destroyed
- 16 were not Brown & Williamson's only copy of a document
- 17 relating to smoking and health, advertising,
- 18 marketing and promotion, and in that regard,
- 19 therefore, no report was made in the interrogatory
- 20 response relative to this.
- 21 Q. Sir, have you spoken with Martha Thomas?
- 22 A. Yes, I have.
- 23 Q. You personally spoke with her.
- 24 A. Yes, I have spoken with Martha Thomas.
- 25 Q. When did you speak with her?

- 1 MR. SCHNEIDER: Let me interrupt and make
- 2 sure we're not correct -- make sure that Mr. Lowther
- 3 is not making an error. The person whom you spoke to
- 4 was Ms. Iler.
- 5 A. To clarify, my response was yes, I've spoken to
- 6 Martha Thomas. I know Martha Thomas. She works on
- 7 the same floor as I do. I have not spoken to her in
- 8 connection with Dr. Wigand's files.
- 9 Q. All right. So just so we're clear here, the
- 10 information you gave me earlier about what Martha
- 11 Thomas understood is information you do not have
- 12 personal knowledge of, sir; do you?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. You have not spoken with Martha Thomas about
- 15 what was or was not in these files that are listed on
- 16 this document; correct?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. You have not read anyone's interview notes
- 19 concerning Martha Thomas's interview; right?
- 20 A. I have not done so. I have, however, spoken
- 21 with Robyn Iler, who did, I believe, undertake the
- 22 interview with Martha Thomas.
- 23 Q. You have not seen Ms. Iler's notes of that
- 24 interview however; have you?
- 25 A. I have not.

- 1 Q. Do you have any other facts to report back to us
- 2 about any of the things you didn't -- weren't able to
- 3 answer yesterday?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 5 A. That's a very broad question. I mean if you can
- 6 indicate to me --
- 7 Q. All right.
- 8 A. -- some items that I said I would come back to
- 9 you on.
- 10 Q. Were there any individuals interviewed whose
- 11 names do not appear on the 77 -- the list of 77
- 12 individuals?
- 13 A. I believe we have -- we have reviewed several
- 14 names. We've talked about Mr. Kohnhorst, Mr. -- Dr.
- 15 Esterle, Mr. Sachs. I'm not aware of any -- any
- 16 supplemental names.
- 17 The interrogatory response does indicate that if
- 18 additional information is gleaned, then supplemental
- 19 information will be provided.
- 20 Q. Do you remember the name of the fourth King &
- 21 Spalding lawyer who conducted the interviews?
- 22 A. I believe it may be Mary Anne Walser.
- 23 Q. Have any notes of those interviews been
- 24 destroyed, sir?
- 25 A. It's my understanding that Mr. Schneider

- 1 yesterday asked that notes -- any notes that were in
- 2 the possession of King & Spalding be preserved, and I
- 3 have no further knowledge about that issue.
- 4 Q. All right. Before Mr. Schneider asked that
- 5 those notes be preserved, were any of those notes
- 6 destroyed?
- 7 A. I have no knowledge about that issue.
- 8 Q. You just don't know one way or the other.
- 9 A. I have no reason to believe that any of them
- 10 were necessarily destroyed.
- 11 Q. Sir, you just don't know one way or the other;
- 12 do you?
- 13 A. I do not know.
- 14 Q. Would you find that out and report back, please?
- 15 A. I will do so.
- 16 Q. Thank you.
- 17 Sir, are you aware of a subpoena that was served
- 18 by federal officials on Brown & Williamson in
- 19 December of 1994 for documents relating to Sales
- 20 Specialty Markets Division of Brown & Williamson?
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 22 outside the scope.
- 23 A. I have not prepared myself to answer on that
- 24 topic. I do have an understanding that events like
- 25 that occurred in 1994.

- 1 Q. Were documents destroyed or removed from Brown &
- 2 Williamson in the fall of 1994 before the subpoena
- 3 was served by federal officials?
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to form.
- 5 A. I'm not aware of -- of circumstances such as you
- 6 describe.
- 7 Q. Would it be fair to say you just don't know one
- 8 way or the other?
- 9 A. I don't know of any circumstances like that,
- 10 that's correct.
- 11 Q. Sir, the last time we met I asked you some
- 12 questions about American Tobacco Company. Do you
- 13 recall that?
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- 15 Q. Have you educated yourself at all about the
- 16 destruction or transfer of American -- any of
- 17 American's documents?
- 18 A. I believe at my deposition last time I told you
- 19 broadly what I understood about the American
- 20 production. I have not prepared myself to talk about
- 21 what happened at American in connection with the
- 22 transfer when American was acquired, so I'm not
- 23 really prepared to speak to that issue.
- 24 Q. All right. Well let me just ask you some
- 25 questions to see if perhaps you know the answer to

- 1 them. Was the legal right to any American document
- 2 transferred to Brown & Williamson but the document
- 3 left someplace else?
- 4 A. I have --
- 5 I don't know about that.
- 6 Q. Was the legal right to any American doc --
- 7 American document transferred to someone else at the
- 8 time Brown & Williamson was merged with American
- 9 Tobacco?
- 10 MR. SCHNEIDER: Object to the form.
- 11 A. I don't know about that.
- 12 Q. Do you know how, at the time Brown & Williamson
- 13 was merged with American Tobacco Company, American
- 14 Tobacco Company documents were defined?
- 15 A. I have a -- an understanding that at the time of
- 16 the acquisition, documents were reviewed by outside
- 17 counsel to collect up documents which may be
- 18 responsive. I know, too, that following the
- 19 acquisition, Brown & Williamson employees collected
- 20 documents and incorporated them into files in Brown &
- 21 Williamson, and as part of that process decisions
- 22 were made as to what documents were necessary to keep
- 23 for retention purposes and which were not, and as
- 24 part of that the definitions were -- were made.
- 25 Q. Well as part of that process that you just

- 1 described, are you prepared to talk about the
- 2 decisions that were made as to what documents should
- 3 be kept and what documents should be discarded?
- 4 A. Well I -- I was personally involved in some of
- 5 those activities. I have some knowledge of -- in
- 6 that area. I have not prepared for that as part of
- 7 this deposition.
- 8 Q. All right. So you're not prepared as Brown &
- 9 Williamson's spokesperson to answer questions on that
- 10 subject here today; are you?
- 11 A. I don't believe so.
- 12 Q. Now you did have the opportunity to obtain some
- 13 documents that were American Tobacco documents in
- 14 your role as risk manager; correct?
- 15 A. Yes, I did.
- 16 Q. And as a matter of fact, you dealt directly with
- 17 American Brands to get those documents; didn't you,
- 18 sir?
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form.
- 20 A. I did have communications with American Brands.
- 21 I did also review files at American Tobacco.
- 22 Q. All right. I'd like to focus on the American
- 23 Brands communications you had. As a matter of fact,
- 24 American Brands passed on to you copies of insurance
- 25 company -- insurance policies for American Tobacco;

- 1 correct?
- 2 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 3 outside the scope. He's giving his personal
- 4 knowledge on these topics.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Yes.
- 6 MR. STARNS: And I object as outside the
- 7 scope of the deposition.
- 8 A. That is correct.
- 9 Q. And you passed those policies on to whom, sir?
- 10 A. I retained copies of those documents within the
- 11 risk management department. I may have -- I may have
- 12 given copies of those to our attorneys, in-house
- 13 counsel. I don't know of any other copies that
- 14 were -- were passed on.
- 15 Q. Well sir, didn't you send them off to London,
- 16 too?
- 17 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form,
- 18 again outside the scope.
- 19 A. I don't recall transmitting them to London.
- MS. WIVELL: Just one moment, please.
- 21 Why don't we go off the record for a moment.
- THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 23 (Recess taken.)
- 24 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 25 Q. Sir, who is Daniel Barton?

- 1 A. The name rings a bell. If you could show me
- 2 correspondence, then I may be able to recall.
- 3 Q. Well let me ask you this: What is Gibbs Hartley
- 4 Cooper North American Limited at Bishops Court in
- 5 London?
- 6 A. I believe they are underwriters.
- 7 Q. Ah, okay. You have dealt with underwriters in
- 8 London concerning American Tobacco insurance;
- 9 correct?
- 10 MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection. Join in the
- 12 objection.
- 13 A. I have not personally done so, no.
- 14 Q. Didn't you send Mr. Daniel Barton of Gibbs
- 15 Hartley Cooper North American Limited copies of 11
- 16 product-liability claims filed or served against The
- 17 American Tobacco Company?
- 18 MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: Join in the objection.
- 20 A. If I can clarify, I believe you're referring to
- 21 the process in connection with this policy where we
- 22 are required to report periodically on the current
- 23 status of litigation cases to the underwriters, and
- 24 that is done from time to time, that's correct.
- 25 Q. And you received the information about those

- 1 claims from American Brands and then passed them on
- 2 to the underwriters; correct?
- 3 MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- 4 MR. SCHNEIDER: Objection to the form. And
- 5 join in the objection.
- 6 A. No, that's not correct. The original
- 7 information was provided by American Brands.
- 8 Following the acquisition we have continued to report
- 9 from time to time to the underwriters in accordance
- 10 with the policy requirements. The risk management
- 11 department obtains the information from outside
- 12 counsel.
- 13 Q. Well sir, didn't you obtain risk management
- 14 information concerning product-liability insurance
- 15 for American Tobacco from the American Brands risk
- 16 manager Daniel Pekera, P-e-k-e-r-a?
- 17 MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: Join in the objection.
- 19 A. In the initial stages, yes, we were in
- 20 communication with American Brands, and indeed they
- 21 gave us copies of the policy, as I testified earlier,
- 22 and they put us on notice of the requirement to
- 23 provide periodic reports to the underwriters, which
- 24 we have done so.
- 25 Q. Sir, let me ask you this about the American

- 1 Tobacco documents. At the time of sale of American
- 2 Tobacco and its merger with Brown & Williamson, were
- 3 all American Tobacco documents provided to Brown &
- 4 Williamson?
- 5 MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- 6 A. Could you repeat the question, please.
- 7 Q. Certainly.
- 8 At the time of sale of American Tobacco and its
- 9 merger with Brown & Williamson, were all American
- 10 Tobacco documents provided to Brown & Williamson?
- 11 MR. SCHNEIDER: Same objection.
- 12 A. I haven't prepared myself to answer to that. I
- 13 believe that the sale and the merger took place over
- 14 several months.
- I know that steps were taken to sweep American
- 16 Tobacco's offices for responsive documents. I
- 17 believe that was done and that reviews were done by
- 18 Brown & Williamson employees of American Tobacco
- 19 records. Decisions were made as to what was
- 20 necessary to keep or not. But it is my understanding
- 21 that files were made available to Brown & Williamson,
- 22 yes.
- 23 Q. What did Brown & Williamson do to assure itself
- 24 that it had access to all of American Tobacco's
- 25 documents?

- 1 A. Well it's my understanding following the
- 2 takeover that Brown & Williamson took early steps to
- 3 communicate its responsibilities to American
- 4 employees. We placed our management and staff in --
- 5 in those facilities and followed the usual course of
- 6 events that happens after an acquisition. And I'm
- 7 not prepared to speak in detail about what steps were
- 8 taken to secure documents in general.
- 9 Q. Did any Brown & Williamson employees or lawyers
- 10 or anyone acting on its behalf alert American Brands
- 11 that they wanted documents that belonged to or were
- 12 under the control of American Tobacco?
- MR. STARNS: Objection, outside the scope.
- 14 A. I'm not aware of that. I don't know.
- 15 Q. Okay. So basically if I ask you any more
- 16 questions about the production of -- or I'm sorry,
- 17 whether or not American Tobacco documents were
- 18 destroyed, you feel that you would be able to answer
- 19 those questions factually and accurately?
- 20 A. Will you repeat the question, please.
- 21 Q. Sure.
- 22 If I ask you any more questions about whether or
- 23 not American Tobacco documents were destroyed, do you
- 24 feel you would be able to answer them accurately and
- 25 factually?

- 1 MR. STARNS: Objection. To the extent the
- 2 question covers American documents that were not
- 3 transferred to Brown & Williamson as a result of the
- 4 merger, it's outside the scope of this deposition and
- 5 was the subject of a previous deposition.
- 6 MR. SCHNEIDER: I join in the objection.
- 7 A. I don't know. I don't know what your question's
- 8 going to be.
- 9 Q. Well have you tried to educate yourself about
- 10 what was done with American documents that came into
- 11 Brown & Williamson's possession?
- 12 A. I have not. I have given you testimony to that
- 13 at the prior deposition. I don't believe I have
- 14 any -- any more information to provide.
- 15 Q. All right. The reason I'm asking is I did
- 16 receive a letter from counsel that said you had
- 17 learned some more information, and I'm just trying to
- 18 find out what it was that you had learned.
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: If I -- if I may interject,
- 20 the letter originally dated May 6, really should have
- 21 been dated -- originally dated May 2, really should
- 22 have been dated May 6, has in it a question about
- 23 American Tobacco documents which is one of the
- 24 follow-ups you wanted to do, and in that response we
- 25 indicate that Brown & Williamson received certain

- 1 documents from American Tobacco after the merger,
- 2 that certain of those documents were integrated into
- 3 B&W's file, that that integration process took place
- 4 prior to the sweep of Brown & Williamson in 1995 in
- 5 connection with this case. That any American
- 6 documents that were found during the course of our
- 7 sweep were also gathered up and reviewed by King &
- 8 Spalding in connection with its review. In addition,
- 9 as you learned from the deposition of Mr. Savell,
- 10 certain other documents were reviewed by the law firm
- 11 of Chadbourne & Parke. Finally, the answer also
- 12 indicates that certain documents in storage of
- 13 American Tobacco that were placed in Brown &
- 14 Williamson's storage were reviewed as well. That's
- 15 in the letter of May 6th.
- 16 MS. WIVELL: All right. And just for the
- 17 record, I was actually handed that officially about
- 18 an hour and a half ago; right?
- 19 MR. SCHNEIDER: You were handled -- handed
- 20 the official copy about an hour and a half ago. As I
- 21 understand it, a copy was faxed to you on May the
- 22 6th.
- MS. WIVELL: At my office.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: At your office.
- MS. WIVELL: Fine.

- 1 BY MS. WIVELL:
- 2 Q. Sir, do you have any additional information to
- 3 add about American Tobacco documents?
- 4 A. I don't believe I do.
- 5 MS. WIVELL: Then I have no further
- 6 questions.
- 7 MR. SVOBODA: You mean now, or where --
- 8 where --
- 9 You have no further questions, the deposition is
- 10 over?
- 11 MS. WIVELL: Unless he has something to
- 12 say.
- MR. SVOBODA: Well thank you. You told me
- 14 that I should not check out.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: We need to caucus a moment
- 16 to determine whether or not we want to ask any
- 17 further questions.
- MS. WIVELL: Can we go off the record.
- 19 THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
- 20 (Recess taken.)
- 21 MS. WIVELL: All right. Before we
- 22 officially end this deposition, because it was
- 23 noticed as an A deposition, I would like to change
- 24 that to a B designation.
- MR. SCHNEIDER: That is acceptable.

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1	We have no questions at this time.
2	MS. WIVELL: Thank you.
3	THE REPORTER: Off the record, please.
4	(Deposition concluded at 3:46 o'clock p.m.)
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Т	CERTIFICATE
2	I, Richard G. Stirewalt, hereby certify
3	that I am qualified as a verbatim shorthand reporter
4	that I took in stenographic shorthand the testimony
5	of RICHARD M. LOWTHER at the time and place
6	aforesaid; and that the foregoing transcript
7	consisting of pages 249 through 424 is a true and
8	correct, full and complete transcription of said
9	shorthand notes, to the best of my ability.
10	Dated at Washington, D.C., this 8th day of
11	May, 1997.
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13	
14	
15	RICHARD G. STIREWALT
16	Registered Professional Reporter
17	Notary Public
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	I, RICHARD M. LOWTHER, the deponent, hereby
3	certify that I have read the foregoing transcript
4	consisting of pages 249 through 424, and that said
5	transcript is a true and correct, full and complete
6	transcription of my deposition except:
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14	
15	RICHARD M. LOWTHER
16	Deponent
17	
18	Sworn and subscribed to before me this day
19	of , 1997.
20	
21	
22	
23	Notary Public
24	
25	My commission expires .
	STIREWALT & ASSOCIATES